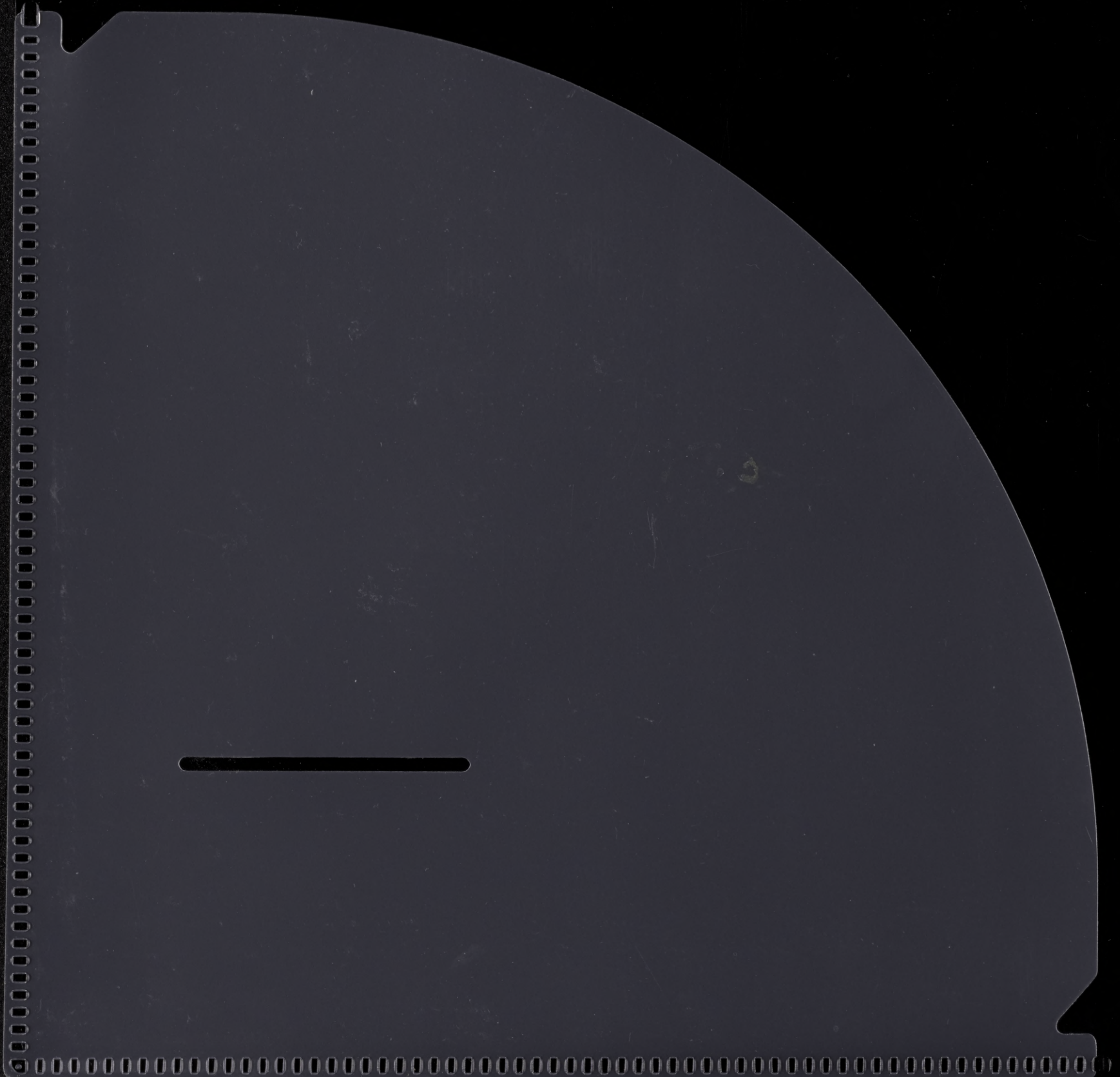


LPA SCRAPBOOK DISTRICT 5 - VOL. 1

HARRIET HOPPERT 1964 – 1965

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LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA, INC.

DISTRICT 12 CONVENTION

SEPT. 5, 6 & 7, 1964 OAKLAND, CALIF.

Gene + Dorothy Henderson
Bob Poe
Gordon England
John Abbott
Nino Carline
Tom Henderson
Andre Boursse
Al Stickney
Bob Shoemaker
Bob East
Katie East
Delore x Joe Dorothy Vercillio
Herb Rinzel
Mary Jane Carline
Lola Cox
Virginia Geddes
Anna Dixon
Barbara Abbott
Hilda Lange
Larry Maren
Nancy Jenkins
Dominic Messina
Dorothy Darlene Howdson
Bob Shoemaker
Florio Parenti
Earl Warr
Judy Fraser → Juanita Smith
Chico Colla
Mrs. Andersen
Mr. Albert Anderson
Emery Souza
Pat Murray
Billy Barty
Shirley Barty
Shirley Reschander
Loni Barty
Rose Anne Smith
Debra Dixon
Paul Abbott
Alan White
Linda Costilla



AN WITH BIG OUTLOOK
the Little People of America

SMALL MAN TACKLES BIG JOB

Leader of 'Little People' Fights for Normal Lives

By IRA LURVEY

Bob East, a thoughtful little man with a gentle face, quietly talked today of bigotry and prejudice and ostracism and how he must spend his life fighting them.

East is a dwarf.

"Where do I start?" he asked. "At what point did I feel committed to stay off only in the corner and just watch forever? I suppose it all hit home hardest as a teen-ager. All there was then was the movies and the roller skating—and always alone. That was the easiest way out. 'Alone' became my password."

But that is anything but the password now for the 4-foot, 7-inch East. Today, "alone" has become his battle cry.

For East, 42, now a machinist, married and the father of a son, 12, is director of the California-Nevada District of the

Little People of America and president of its Bay Area chapter.

And the Little People hope to focus a lot of attention on their problems next weekend when they open a three-day convention in Oakland.

"It would be easy to just talk about the obvious problems—the simple ones, like fitting clothes and non-existent shoes, and things like that," East said.

"But why fool ourselves? The real troubles are so much deeper. How do you find jobs and careers and wives or husbands? How do you convince people who have hid all their lives that their only salvation lies in coming out and facing reality?"

This is the mission East has given himself, he says. He must, he says, become a constant voice to fellow Little People

telling them they are so big, they are so real.

"I have no illusions," he said. "Our national organization itself only reaches about half the little people in the nation—we have a membership of 3,000. Our two-state district has 309."

Even that, however, is commendable considering the Little People were only founded seven years ago in Los Angeles by entertainer Billy Barty, who conceived a society devoted "to bringing the little people out into the world, to alleviate their shyness and to help find them employment."

Barty set the group's height limit at 4 feet 10 inches but left all its other avenues wide open. The Little People now admits both children and grandparents, its members represent all economic strata and range from laborers to engineers and

teachers.

"Our most thrilling project right now is an expanding scholarship program," East said. "More and more we're trying to impress upon our young people that their main avenue to a normal life is through a good and soundly-based education. You aren't judged as tall or short or midget or what have you when it comes to the arts or sciences — you're judged simply and entirely for what you can contribute."

"That's the kind of dream we want to offer youngsters who suddenly find they're not going to be as tall as others. We want them to say — 'so what? We can still be as smart, or smarter, than others.'"

East met his wife when he was 20. She, too, is a dwarf and they spotted each other at a Modesto roller rink.

"But we didn't really get friendly then," he said. "Little people are like that. They inherently shy away from one another. Seeing another person like you reminds you how real your problem is. You say, 'Do I look that different, too?' and you get all frightened and want to hide again. Isn't it awful how much our society demands uniformity?"

The Easts married in 1950 and live at 3807 Brookdale Ave. Their son, Jon, of normal height, now is ready to enter teen-age.

"It's not easy on him, either," East said. "The other children teased him for a long time. We finally decided the only defense was a direct approach—so we've gotten as active as all get-out in every P-TA and community

and civic function we could contribute to. We enjoy it, our neighbors do, and our son is benefiting. What more can we ask?"

they will be present. from

Convention For Little People

This weekend the California-Nevada district of the Little People of America will hold their second annual convention. This is a non-profit organization composed of people that are 4' 10" or shorter. Founded in 1957 in Los Angeles, this organization has grown to take in the entire United States.

The general purpose of the LPA, as it is often called, is to provide fellowship, interchange of ideas, solutions to the unique problems of a little person and moral support. The mechanism for this is four-fold: An annual convention (or in some cases more often), district meetings, district and national newsletters and informal or impromptu private meetings between individuals.

The small children, whether they have normal or small parents, are a great concern to us. Because they seem to gain as much or more than their elders from contact with other small children, they have their own program and activities in addition to the regular convention program. There is also a program planned for the parents of these children providing opportunities for discussion of their special problems.

Bob East of 3807 Brookdale Ave. was elected as the director of California and Nevada at the district convention in Los Angeles last year. He would like any little person classified as a midget or a dwarf or any person who might have a relative or friend who is a little person to contact him. Any little person is welcome to attend the convention upon contacting Mr. East.

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The Sacramento Bee 9-27-64



George McKenzie, left, stops to chat with Roger (Brownie) Brown, who is about to call his family in Santa Monica. The men are Douglas Aircraft Corporation inspectors working at the Sacramento division on special assignment.

'Little Man,' Father Of 6, Attains Stature In Job As Electronics Expert

Roger (Brownie) Brown is college trained in electronics. He has a responsible position with Douglas Aircraft Corporation and he enjoys his work. His employers regard him highly. He has friends by the score and "no enemies I can think of." He goes home to a charming wife and six children—from 4 to 19 years of age—who think "Pop is tops."

Summed up, Roger Brown might qualify as a model suburbanite.

Except for one thing: He can stand upright in a compact car without denting his five gallon hat. He weighs 65 pounds, stretches to a scant 48 inches in cowboy boots, and buys his favorite western style clothes in the boys wear department where a size 10 gives him a perfect fit. Brownie is what the world terms a midget. He prefers to describe himself as "one of the little people."

Brownie—everybody calls him that—was born 50 years ago of standard sized parents. No one knows precisely why nature turned this well proportioned man out in miniature, but heredity played its part and still does.

"Three of our children will be little," he predicts. "The other three take after my wife. She's five feet two."

Does lack of stature create problems?

Not in the least.

"It's all on the plus side," Brownie says.

"I can flirt with the women and no one gets mad—not even husbands. I get special treatment in restaurants—in fact, wherever I go. And I'm on the go a lot in my work."

"I find friends everywhere because somehow I'm noticed, and I return the notice with a smile and a compliment."

As if to prove his point, a mother and her small son walked through the foyer of the inn where he had registered the night before.

"Hey, there's my friend Brownie," shouted the boy, and the mother called: "Hi, Brownie, we'll see you later."

"All the kids know me," he says.

As an inspector in the quality control division at Douglas, Brown is headquartered in Santa Monica but "trouble shoots" all over

the world. He is at the Sacramento Test Center near Folsom this month with a select crew to help the local plant through a peak load.

Only one question ruffles Brownie's normally even disposition: "Does the aircraft company keep you on to get into little places and fix things in engines, like I read about once?" This is somewhat like asking a six foot four college graduate if a firm employs him to dust tall filing cabinets.

"No!" drawls Brownie, a bit of the south showing up in his voice. "They hired me to do the electronics job I was trained for in four years of college. I live by my ability, not my size."

Brownie has never "lived by his size," though he could well fit the paraphrased song title, Little Man, You've You've Had A Busy Life. He put himself through Oklahoma University with the money he earned in circus and county fair routines, but it was ability that got him the spotlight.

He has been a trick rider, a sharpshooter, a precision knife thrower with Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey. For a time he dived 75 feet into an eight foot tank of water—"but I quit because it gave me a headache," he says.

He has played the rodeo circuit and managed stage productions. He even dealt black jack in Reno and Las Vegas, Nev. For the last 17 years he has been with various aircraft companies all over the southwest.

Show business led Brownie to his wife, Leona. She was new at the circus—the Australian whip cracker with the pretty face and friendly smile. His specialty at the time was knife throwing. They teamed up and were immediate hits.

Though the act disbanded when Brownie went into defense work at the beginning of World War II, the team and the trust has continued through 25 years of marriage.

Brownie drives a standard model car with the help of "adaptors" he made. The stilt like extensions for throttle and brake keep him skimming through traffic but he says, "I sometimes gets stopped by a policeman who thinks a youngster has sneaked out with the family car."

LEE WRIGHT

Fall - 1964

Hooks Man Chairman Of Little People's Organization

HOOKS, Texas —(Special) — Lee Wright of Hooks, Texas, is chairman of district eight, Texas and Louisiana, of the Little People of America, Inc. He is in charge of all members and affairs of this district.

The Little People of America was begun in 1955 by Billy Barty, who is known in TV and movies. In 1960 over 100 attended a national convention at which a constitution was adopted, the United States was divided into districts and groundwork laid for incorporation as a non - profit organization — Little People of America, Inc.

The purpose of LPA is to provide fellowship, interchange of ideas, solutions to the unique problems of a little person, and moral support.

The small children have their own program and activities in addition to the regular convention program. There is also a program planned for parents of these children providing opportunities for discussion of their special problems.

The Little People are people who, for one reason or another, are considerably smaller in stature than most.

They are accountants, bookkeepers, artists, clerks, secretaries, lawyers, watchmakers, students, draftsmen, TV repairmen, barbers, salesmen, builders, civil service employees, food store operators, engineers, bankers — almost every occupation or employment that you can think of is represented.

A little person can gain many things from this group. Association with others will enable him to compare notes on problems and their solutions and to know of all the many other little people in the district and across the nation so that he may have the opportunity to meet them individually. A membership card, information on the best places to find things such as those small shoes, where to have clothes made that really fit, life insurance, and many other things are available through this organization.

If there are little people that would be interested in becoming a member of this group, more information and an application for membership may be

obtained by mailing your name, address, city, state, occupation, age, height, and a snapshot (if possible) to Lee Wright, P. O. Box 296, Hooks, Texas 75561.

San Antonio - 9-28-64



LEE WRIGHT (L) OF HOOKS, TEXAS, spins a tall tale to Robert Anderson of San Antonio and Carrol Swenson, 15, of Austin, at the district convention of the Little People of America. About 50 persons from Texas-Louisiana district attended at the Austin home of Carrol's parents, who are "Little People."



ALLEN RICH REPORTS

Mite Debuts Own Show

Today is a big one in the life of North Hollywood's Billy Barty, the most famous of The Little People.

At five this afternoon on Ch. 11 he debuts as star of his first TV series, a kid show titled Billy Barty and the Three Stooges. The program features about 15 minutes worth of the Stooges' movies. Balance of the half hour will find Billy conducting interviews, presenting animals from Jungland, presiding over contests, etc. and etc.

BILLY IS only 3 feet 10 inches tall, but his small wingspread has affected neither his think-tank nor his sense of humor.

"I married a tall girl. She's 4 feet three," he told me.

That's Shirley, his wife, who is a commercial artist. The pair, married three years, have a 21-month-old baby, Lori Ellen. According to the doc, Lori Ellen will not be one of The Little People, but will grow up to be about 5 feet tall.

BILLY'S SISTERS Dolores and Evelyn, his mother and his father all achieved normal growth.

The 39-year-old mite is most happy with his new TV series "because it will allow me to stay home and lead a normal family life in the Valley instead of traipsing around the

country with my night club act."

Also he loves children. "At first they look at me with astonishment, but we quickly become buddy-buddy. I guess it's because the kids feel a sort of rapport with me on account of my size," explained Billy.

HOW DOES the world look to a fellow less than four feet tall?

"Well, I'd say normal. I don't know how it looks to a tall person because I've never been tall," he said with considerable logic.

It is unlikely that Billy will ever shell out money to psychiatrists like some of his more physically-

endowed coworkers in show business do.

"They say everything goes back to your childhood . . . and I guess that's true. I was lucky. My parents always treated me like a normal child. The biggest problem for The Little People is parents who try to shelter them. After such coddling they, the kids, have difficulty adjusting," informed the economy-sized performer.

ASIDE FROM his professional life, Billy's chief interest lies in The Little People of America Club which he founded in 1957. "There were only 27 members at the first meeting. Today, we have a mailing list of over 1100 mem-

bers. Most of the club's members have regular jobs. Numbered among them are teachers, lawyers, a linotype operator . . . and even a doctor of psychiatry."

They constantly work to help each other and also aid recognized medical groups in the ever-continuing search to solve The Big Question among all The Little People. That question: WHY they are little?

BILLY IS a graduate of Los Angeles City College, where he was Student Athletic Public Relations Director. Later, believe it or not, he played semi pro baseball. A good batter, he was on base most of the time because natu-

rally with him opposing pitchers couldn't find the strike zone and he got lots of walks.

Billy even as you and I, likes television, baseball and beer. It would be hard to find a more well-adjusted fellow . . . of any size.

I WOULD say that the young guests on the Billy Barty Show are going to have a ball . . . and so will his youthful viewers.

It's hard to fool children, but Billy won't have to. He loves 'em.

This has not always been true of kid show emcees, a few of whom have sometimes privately referred to their youthful



BILLY BARTY



Frieda Betsky, left, prepares to cut her birthday cake, as her fiance, Matthew Raia, and her sister Mrs. Rose Ross, look on at Mrs. Ross' Elmont home.

Big Day for a Couple of Little People

Two little people were betrothed last night in Elmont, climaxing a 20-year courtship that spanned the country.

Three-foot Frieda Betsky of South Ozone Park and Matthew Raia of Deer Park, who's an inch or so shorter, were engaged at Miss Betsky's birthday party. It was

held in the home of her sister, Mrs. Rose Ross of 673 Lawrence St., Elmont. Miss Betsky will be 50 on Sept. 19; her fiance is 49.

The two have known each other since appearing together in the film "Wizard of Oz" in the late 1930s.

Since then, they've travelled with such big tent hits

as the World of Mirth and the Bantley All-American Shows. Recently they were with the Singer Midgets at the World's Fair.

Miss Betsky is now retired. Her future husband works in a defense plant.

They are active in the Little People of America, a national group of midgets.

MON-FRI 5PM

BILLY

BARTY

AND THE

3 STOOGES

11

KTTV

3' 9" TALL
TV'S BIGGEST
NEW
PERSONALITY

CORNING, N. Y. OCT. 24, 1964

Little People 'Think Big' Here

All you people who thought you were seeing things in downtown Corning over the weekend take heart. erected in the lobby of the hotel. The sign bore some very good advice, "Think Big," in little letters.

No need to give up whatever it was that you were blaming for those seeming hallucinations. There really were little people in Corning.

More than 30 shorter-than-average persons converged on the Baron Steuben Hotel Friday evening for the three-day meeting of the Northeastern Region of Little People of America. The four-foot-or-under crowd gathered from throughout the New England States, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, with one visitor making the trip from Georgia.

Included on the weekend's itinerary were a visit to the Corning Glass Center and a dinner-dance at the hotel, both on Saturday.

During their stay, the Little People made the public aware of their presence through a sign

Kingsman-Brooklyn College-N.Y. publication
October 9-1964

A Gal for Little People

*Diminutive BC employee Eleanor Ostrow
Helps fellow midgets adjust to their problems*

By ALLEN TISHMAN

Little people who must pursue their daily rounds constantly looking up at others may sometimes find it hard to gain a high opinion of themselves. To help overcome the difficulties imposed on them by their physical make-up, midgets and dwarfs, tired of being treated as freaks, have formed an

exclusive organization for anyone four feet, ten inches tall or less.

New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania comprise one district of the Little People of America (LPA) Inc. For the past year the director of this district and its 250 little members has been Eleanor Ostrow, four feet, four inches tall, a BC office assistant.

Until two and a half years ago, all of Miss Ostrow's friends were normal-sized people. This situation was changed when she went out with an LPA member on a blind date. He introduced her to the organization, and it has kept her busy ever since.

Small groups of little people first started to meet in 1955. In 1960, over 100 attended a national convention in Las Vegas to adopt a constitution and to lay the groundwork for the LPA. Adopting "think big" as their motto, they divided the United States into fourteen districts, which now contain approximately 2000 members.

Miss Ostrow says that, "Many little people are at first reluctant to join LPA because they don't want to admit to themselves that they are different from other people. But meeting others with the same problems opens up a new world of understanding, friendship and enjoyment for them."

Among the activities of the LPA is a teen-age branch called

the "Little Littles," an adoption bureau for child midgets or dwarfs and a scholarship fund for small children. The little people meet at annual conventions, district meetings and small social gatherings and publish newsletters to keep members informed of events.



ELEANOR OSTROW
It's a Small World

According to Miss Ostrow, "The biggest problem of the little people is employment. Parents of midget children usually shelter them too much, instead of seeing that the youngsters get an adequate education to compete in a normal-sized world."

District 2 — Corning 10-24-64

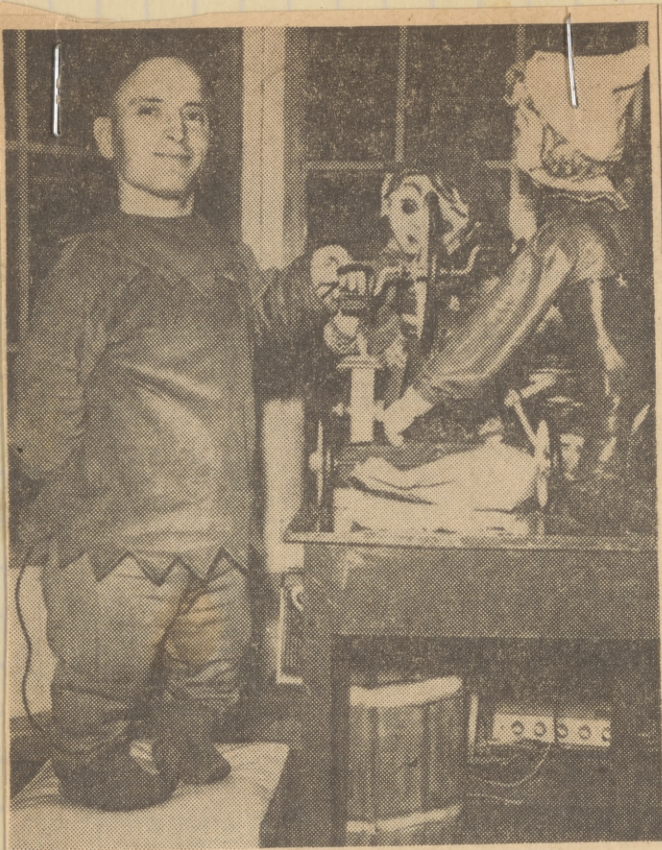


District 2

Corning, New York

October 24, 1964

Front row - Shirley Lentini Bob Hinkson



LITTLE MAN IS SANTA'S HELPER—Dennis Binion, 38, is only 3 feet 10 inches tall, but the kids look up to him. He is a part-time elf in Santa Claus' workshop in an Atlanta shopping center. By day he is a tax examiner for the Internal Revenue Service. *El Paso Times* 12-17-64 —(AP Wirephoto)



10-29-64 Daily NEWS Photo.
BIG BILL, LITTLE BILL — Bill Gollam, who at six feet one-and-a-half inches is tallest on the Daily News reportorial staff, interviews Bill Albaugh of Camden, N.J., who is four feet six inches. Albaugh, traveling as "The Little Squirt" for a soft drink company, is in Lebanon this week.

'Little Squirt' Stops Here

'Little People' Don't Need Pity, Only Respect As They Adjust To King-Size World

By WILLIAM E. GOLLAM
Staff Reporter

Have you ever wished to be taller than you are? Or maybe you fall into the average class where no one ever notices you. At any rate, life has its ups and downs and you still go on growling at the world.

Well, you don't have it so tough. Think of the Little People of the world. Now they have problems, but they still smile and keep on living, attempting to adjust to the world as it is instead of looking for pity.

Even the old song "Shorty" wouldn't fit the happy little fellow I met yesterday, and yet maybe with his outlook on life and his happy personality he's bigger than all of us.

You see, we met "The Little Squirt." He's just four feet six and 115 pounds, but he wasn't complaining.

The Little Squirt is Bill Albaugh of Camden, N.J., who travels all across our land representing the Squirt Soft Drink Co. He's known as "the Living Trademark."

While the soft drink company employs Bill, he is in an excellent position to help other little people like himself and he does just that.

Most persons call these people midgets, but they themselves would rather be called Little People. Albaugh is vice president of the Little People of America Inc., an organization that works toward solving mutual problems little people face.

Lists Problems

Albaugh said the biggest problems are employment, financing of homes, purchasing clothing and overcoming the feeling of smallness.

Albaugh said his group stresses education. They have a motto that says "If you don't have it from the knees down, you'd better have it from the shoulder's up."

Most Little People have trouble purchasing clothes. He himself either buys tailor-made clothing or husky boy sizes and then has them altered. Shoes are custom-made if they desire styling, otherwise it's a straight boy's size.

Albaugh said another thing little people have difficulty in is that employers tend to look upon them as incapable. "Just the opposite is true. Ninety per cent of the Little People are professional people: lawyers, doctors, teachers, chemists," Albaugh said with pride.

"Little Squirt" laid some of their problems to their parents. He said, "Most parents of Little People tend to over-protect them. This is wrong. We can stand on our own merits."

"I was born into a normal-size family of normal-size parents. I still had my chores to do.

"I was active as a youth. I played all the sports in my age bracket and when I got to high school I stayed with sports. I was part of the group. I kept active. I was a student manager in most of the sports."

Dates Were Problem

Albaugh smiled and said, "Really, the toughest part of life was when my friends found out about girls and started dating. That's when a little person feels out in the cold. We hesitate to ask for dates because of the way the girl may look upon going out with a person not of normal height. However, we get over that and find our own way in life."

Another thing the Little People do as a group is to attempt to show other little people that they are not alone. "Most of us had better have a sense of humor, for we must face life as it is.

"Many humorous things happen to us, as you can well imagine. For instance, many times when my wife and I travel together (she is three feet eleven inches) and little girls staying at the same motel will often ask me if my little girl can come out and play with them."

Albaugh says the most annoying remark is when ordinary people ask him, "Where is the show?" he said, "They tend to look upon us as freaks. We don't want pity. We're like everyone else — we like to be treated with respect."

Albaugh said the Little People do not want the world to adjust to them; they'll adjust to the world.

He said if there are any Little People in the area with any problems they should get in touch with his organization, which is equipped to handle problems of many kinds.

No Miniature World

One misconception normal-size people have of the Little People is that they live in a miniature world. Nothing could be farther from the truth. They have normal size homes, cars, etc., with the exception of one or two chairs and maybe a built-up kitchen floor to help them reach things.

"One thing you'll find in our homes," Albaugh said, "is plenty of step-stools and ladders."

The most inconvenient things for the Little People are telephone booths, parking meters and the first step on buses or trains. Albaugh's pet peeve is light plugs for electric shavers in hotel rooms. The mirrors too are all a bit too high for "Little Squirt."

Otherwise he accepts the world as it is.

He was asked whether he would want to be taller. His answer: no.

"I have learned to live as I am. I had to make certain adjustments. If I were taller I'd have to readjust my entire way of life, my thinking and all that. I believe it would be just too much. I'm happy as I am."

Albaugh said the Little People will hold a convention in Gloucester, N. J., next July.

Our Midget Reporter Gets His

By JOSEPH CASSIDY

A 98-pound professional strong man who sports a Mohawk topknot and speaks with a French-Canadian accent spent yesterday searching the city for parking space for the 50-foot trailer he and three midget friends call home.

He settled for four parking meters on the east side of Second Ave., near 83d St., yesterday. But the rent — four dimes an hour between 10 A.M. and 8 P.M. — has put a strain on the midgets' midget budget and the Lilliputs are looking toward the suburbs for a place to set up their mobile homestead.

On Global Tour

Spokesman for the little group is Lionel (Li'l Beaver) Giroux, who wears a white buckskin shirt and trousers over his 48-inch torso when not actively engaged in the grunt-and-groan game.

Giroux, who claims the presidency of the 34-member Canadian Midget Association, said he is on an "around the world" tour seeking global recognition for his north-of-the-border organization of little people.

Comforts of Home

Giroux said he and his friends are from Montreal and are on their way to Washington before heading toward South America. "We've got all the comforts of home in our five room apartment on wheels but we need electricity and water connections," he added.

Also living in the trailer's five rooms are Rita Labrosse who's just 3 feet tall, and her fiancée Pee Wee James who tips the Fairbanks at 105 pounds. Completing the strange menage is Real Strong, who at 22 is the youngest of the quartet and also the biggest, standing 49 inches high.

THE NEWS sent one of its "heavy" men to cover the group's arrival and skeptic that he was, the reporter got involved in a catch-as-catch-can grappling session with Li'l Beaver. The event had a 30-second time limit set for the benefit of the newsmen whose wrestling has been limited



(NEWS foto by John Duprey)
Li'l Beaver Giroux applies Indian lock to Gorgeous Joe Cassidy, who seems to feel someone's pulling his leg.

to getting on his socks each morning.

Spotting his opponent only a little over 200 pounds, Li'l Beaver immediately attached a bone-wrenching Indian leg lock on the newsmen whose shouts attracted a group of kids from a nearby grammar school.

Although he certainly didn't

need it, Giroux found himself aided by a half-dozen of the schoolboys who disarmed the reporter of his ball-pen and chased him down Second Ave. Li'l Beaver rewarded them with his autograph, leaving the reporter wondering why he got out of bed yesterday morning.

NEW YORK DAILY NEWS Oct. 29, 1964

He Leads 'Little People' In Adjusting to Big World

By TOMMY AYRES
Staff Writer

If you get down on your knees and look up at the world you will be looking at it from the permanent point of view of Lee Kitchens.

Mr. Kitchens, you see, stands only 4-feet-1 in a 6-foot world. He is a dwarf — one of this nation's approximately 5,000 "little people."

He cannot take a casual drink from a public fountain. He cannot easily use a pay telephone. He must tiptoe to see over a bank counter. He has to stretch to reach a normal wall light switch.

Yet, despite it all, Lee Kitchens is not really a little man — not when measured by the yardstick of social and economic success and personal accomplishment.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEER

He is an electrical engineer at the sprawling Texas Instruments, Inc., complex where he heads a test equipment group.

Last July he was elected president of the Little People of America, which has 1,100 members.

Mr. Kitchens is active in numerous church, civic and social functions. When he finds the time he is an amateur photographer and a stereo fan.

And according to his wife, Mary, Lee is an accomplished weekend craftsman around their specially designed brick home at 938 Blue Lake Circle in Richardson.

Actually, the house itself is a tribute to the thoroughness and determination of the man. Mr. Kitchens, with an architect, planned the contemporary structure for two years before the first nail was driven — designed it to accommodate every special need of a family which includes Mary, who stands 3-feet-11, and their two small adopted children, Alan, 8, and Sandra, 4.

A close check of the almost normal appearing interior reveals lowered light switches and door knobs, legs removed from stock

contemporary furniture, chairs large enough to comfortably seat a six-footer, yet, designed for the convenience of their owner.

Outside in a curved driveway are two automobiles equipped with brake and accelerator extensions and special high cushion seats which are removable.

Actually the Kitchens' private and social lives are little different than those of their friends and neighbors.

Mary, an art major at Texas Women's University, keeps house and paints for a hobby. All fit comfortably into the 6-foot society.

TELLS OF AMBITION

In his 34 years Mr. Kitchens has set numerous lofty goals. In most instances he not only reached, but surpassed them.

And his most recent ambition?

"I want to carry the Little People of America message to every little person in the country," he says.

"There are so many little people who live somewhere between two worlds," says Mr. Kitchens.

"LPA gives them something to belong to — a chance to compete on equal terms — a chance to look a man in the eye," said Mr. Kitchens.

"You may not realize it," he said, "But its refreshing to look someone in the eye once in a while."

According to Mr. Kitchens, LPA boasts members from almost every profession.

"These people can serve to in-

See DWARFS on Page 31

spire other little people who are perhaps less successful only because they have not learned to adjust to society," Mr. Kitchens said.

He emphasizes that the purpose of LPA is not to isolate little people in any way. Rather, it encourages the small person to live in two worlds — a small world and a normal world.

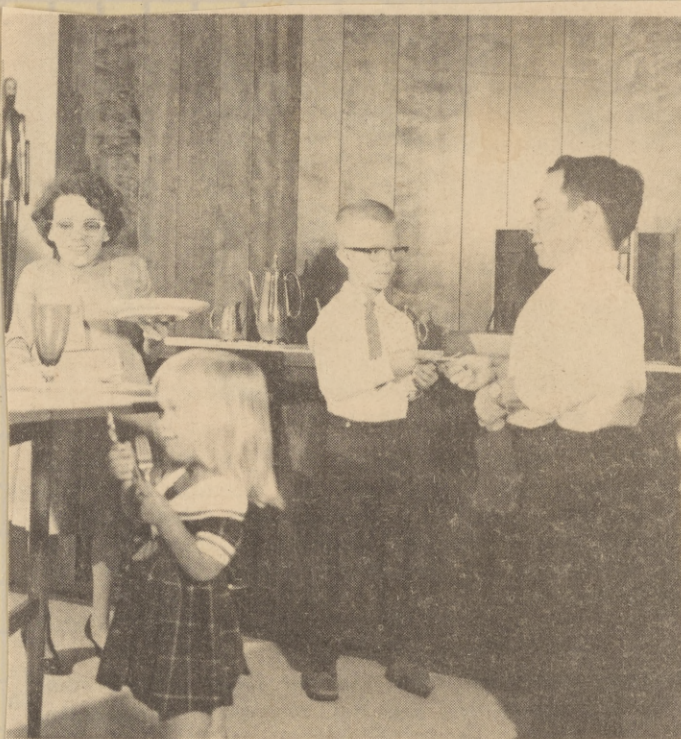
But Mr. Kitchens notes that society often makes it difficult for the little person to live in the normal world.

"In an attempt to help the little person, people often tend to be overly protective," said Mr. Kitchens. "For example, normal parents with exceptionally small children will try to protect them from the world when they should be helping them adjust to it."

Mr. Kitchens noted that LPA can be of great service to normal parents of "little littles," children who are smaller than normal.

LPA members also are offering themselves for research being conducted by Dr. Leonard O. Langer, a radiologist at the University of Minnesota.

Dr. Langer became interested in dwarfism when it was apparent one of his children was a little person. Through research, he is seeking the cause of dwarfism. LPA members have offered their bodies for study by the doctor.



'LITTLE PEOPLE'

The Kitchens family numbers among this nation's 5,000 "little people" and theirs is an amazing adjustment to the 6-foot world around them. At home in a new house designed to meet their special needs are, from left, Mary, Sandra, Alan and Lee Kitchens. Furniture in their Richardson home has been lowered to a comfortable height, wall switches and door handles dropped and cabinets and closets specially designed. Mr. Kitchens is president of the Little People of America.

Little People Make Contribution to Church, Community

Lee Kitchens stands 4 feet 1 inch tall, but he is not a little man. By any test of spiritual, social and psychological adjustment, and economic success, he is taller than many who stand six feet high.

Born of normal sized parents, Lee grew up in Boulevard Methodist Church, Fort Worth, Texas, and for the first few years was not aware that there was any difference between him and his friends. But as the years stretched out and his legs didn't, young Lee began to sense a difference. He realized he was not a normal sized person.

"Any person who is different", says Lee, "has trouble adjusting to it himself and in adjusting to society. In addition to one's own inner difficulty, society adds to the problem."

Lee is quick to note that society does not necessarily mean to make the handicapped person's load heavier. People just tend to be overprotective. To an abnormally small person they often say, "You're too little to help here, or you are too small to hold this job." Or, as Lee began to notice along about the 8th grade, a little person just begins to feel he does not fit.

But Lee Kitchens and his wife, Mary, who stands a slight 3' 11" have both made an enviable adjustment not matched by many whose problems are less severe.

Spiritual Victory

The Kitchens' spiritual victory is undeniable. Neither of them show any sense of pity for themselves or rancor toward their fate or their God. To their own credit and to the credit of the Christian fellowship, Lee and Mary have made their way into places of leadership in Preston Hollow Methodist Church in Dallas.

Rev. Fred Adams, pastor of the church reports they are not



Family portrait of Lee and Mary Kitchens and Alan, 8, and Sandra, age 4.

Interesting Methodists Of Texas

only faithful in worship and busy in the activities of the church, but the members are hardly aware that they stand from 12 to 24 inches shorter than most adult members of the congregation.

Lee and Mary are members of the Co-Wed Sunday School Class and Mary is a member of the W.S.C.S., while Lee is active in the Methodist Men. He is also a member of the official board and has served as chairman of the Commission on Missions.

Their psychological and social adjustment is as remarkable as their spiritual victory. Sound mental health requires that you recognize you are different and adjust to that fact. There is no hush-hush attitude about their short stature in the Kitchens household.

Leads National Organization

These two unusual Methodists call themselves "Little People" and both are proud of Lee's election as president of the "Little People of America." The purpose of the organization is to gather Little People together to create an understanding of their mutual problems and help them adjust to society.

Lee enthusiastically describes the organization and work of LPA. LPA began in 1958 when 20 persons and Bill Bart, a well-known show personality who is himself a Little Person, put together a mailing list. Their purpose was to contact Little People and make themselves available for whatever service they could give.

In 1960, Ralph Edwards of "This Is Your Life" fame gave the movement a big lift when he featured Billy Bart on his TV program. As a result of that meeting in 1958 and the publicity given by Ralph Edwards, a national organization came into being with Billy Bart as its first president.

Annual conventions have been held each year since 1960. The 1965 convention is scheduled for Gloucester, New Jersey. During the 1960 convention, Lee and Mary aligned themselves with the newly organized group. In July, 1964 Lee was elected president. LPA now has 14 regional districts. On the mailing list are 1250 of the estimated 7500 Little People in America.

LPA, Lee points out, is the only organization in America in which Little People can share common problems and seek solutions. It also offers an outlet for service. The father of two adopted children, Lee is dedicated to the organization as a benefit to the child.

Little People's Children

The children who are small are called "Little Littles". Parents of Little Littles often need someone to talk to about problems arising in the rearing of their children. For example, a child of 9 or 10 may sense his smallness in comparison to other children in school or Sunday School. Teen-agers have problems of friendship and courtship. LPA gives their parents an opportunity to share solutions each have found. Recently they have organized an auxiliary for normal sized parents who have Little Littles.

Assistance in research is another practical program for LPA. LPA members are offering themselves as "guinea pigs" through the interest of Dr. Leonard O. Langer, a radiologist in

the University of Minnesota School of Medicine. Dr. Langer became interested in the study of dwarfism (not all Little People are dwarfs) because one of his children is a Little Little. He contacted LPA and the organization quickly agreed to assist him in his research.

Adoption services have become an important part of LPA, according to President Lee Kitchens. It has sought to discover Little Littles needing to be adopted and put them in contact with members who are seeking children. This is done only through recognized agencies.

Employment of Little People

Employment assistance is also a vital part of the LPA program. Many jobs are closed to Little People, but many could be made available to them if employers knew their ability and availability, or Little People knew where or how to look for employment. For a long while, Little People have been in show business.

Recreation with people of their own size opens new vistas of fun and fellowship often denied even in the most friendly social and religious gatherings of normal sized people. LPA, particularly at its conventions, provides an opportunity for happy times together with people of our own size, Lee points out.

Business Success

Material success plays a part in every normal American's life and Lee Kitchens is no exception. The 4th president of LPA lives with his family in a new contemporary brick home at 938 Blue Lake Circle in suburban Richardson, Texas. The 8 room artistically designed home is itself a silent symbol of Lee's vocational success.

As a student in Southern Methodist University's co-operative engineering program which combines class room experience with employment in a local industry, Lee was employed by Texas Instruments, Inc. Today he is head of Technical Services Engineering of the Power Department.

The Kitchens' recently built home has been carefully designed to meet their special needs. Upon entering, a visitor does not sense any particular difference from a home for normal sized people. But the Kitchens will gladly take a visitor on a tour of the house and point out how it has been designed for their convenience without destroying its marketability.

Two-Car Family

Outside two cars sit in the circle drive. They are equipped with simple extensions for brake and accelerator pedals. A specially designed seat sits snugly in the regular seat and provides back support and compensates for their small stature.

With no hint of self-consciousness, Lee and Mary willingly explain and demonstrate the many physical adjustments they have incorporated into their home to make for comfortable living.

The family life of the Kitchens goes on at normal pace. Sandra, age 4, and Alan, age 8, adjust in their own way to the life they already realize is destined to be different from others. Fortunately for them, they have parents who have helped to make life happy and normal as those of the children around them. The other children in the block play with Sandra and Alan as with any other children. They enjoy visiting the Kitchens home and if they sense any difference between the Kitchens and their parents, they have not shown it.

One interesting point, Little Sandra seeks to compensate for an area of life that is different for her. Whereas another child

might desire cookies, candy or pennies from a visitor, Sandra begs to be picked up. Undoubtedly, she sees other little children picked up by their parents and does not fully understand that hers are too little to hoist her onto their hip or shoulders.

Both Lee and Mary readily admit that solving the problem of marital happiness has helped many other problems fall into place. Little People seldom grow up with other Little People, and they soon realize that marriage may well escape them. Lee points out that marriages between Little People and normal-sized people are the exception rather than the rule, and sometimes do not work out.

College Courtship

It was, therefore, a lucky day when one of Lee's SMU classmates arranged a blind date with the then Mary Perryman, a fine arts student at Texas Women's University. Mary grew up in Lubbock, Texas, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Perryman. Mr. Perryman is a teacher at Texas Tech., consequently, she had lived with normal size people all her life.

Mary recalls she had never met another Little Person and when she met Lee for the first time, it was an emotional shock. She was glad when the first date was over and she was not sure she wanted to see him again. But soon they were going steady. They were married at St. John's Methodist Church in Lubbock on July 31, 1955.

Lee and Mary moved into their new home in February, 1963. It was more than a token of their economic success and social adjustment. Its careful design, thoughtfully planned for comfort and pleasure is a monument to the providence of God which brought Lee and Mary together, and gave them the fulfillment of a genuine love and the happiness of a normal family life.



Even the children can help in this specially designed house furnished with low, out-of-stock contemporary pieces.

Miss Margaret Mangione, 1729 Dorothy St., daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mangione, was married to Alphonse J. Dufton, 2853 Sellers St., Philadelphia, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Dufton, Throop, this morning at 11 in St. Anthony's Church.

The Apostolic Blessing of Pope Paul VI was bestowed on the couple by the Rev. Paschal Trozzillo, who performed the double-ring ceremony. The bride presented a bouquet of blue and white car-

nations at the Blessed Mother's altar. The church was decorated with gold vases of white chrysanthemums and cibotium ferns.

Escorted by her brother, Dr. Anthony J. Mangione, the bride wore a floor-length gown of white silk crystal peau over pella linings. The gown was designed with a molded bodice of re-embroidered Alencon lace, styled with a deep, scalloped neckline etched with seed pearls, bracelet-length sleeves, bouffant skirt with controlled front and lace appliques with soft folds at the sides extending to the back waist line, where modified bows released a full chapel train. Her tiered veil of imported English illusion, was arranged from a double crown of cut crystal and pearls. She carried a cascade of white stephanotis and ivy centered with green tone cymbidium orchids.

Mrs. Frank Lentini, Auburn, N.Y., matron of honor, and Miss Frances Conville, Decatur, Ga., bridesmaid, wore floor-length gowns of tinted champagne chiffon over taffeta, styled with scooped necklines with draped collars, cap sleeves and full skirts. They had matching headbands with short circular veils and wore cultured pearl pendants, gifts of the bride. Their flowers were miniature cascades of talisman roses and ivy, intermingled with bittersweet and green wheat.

Frank Lentini, Auburn, N.Y., was best man and James Stevenson, Burlington, N.J.; Edward Dufton Jr., Scranton, nephew of the bridegroom; Thomas Dellecave, Scranton, nephew of the bride; John Saravitz, Scranton, nephew of the bride, and John Jankowski, Philadelphia, nephew of the bridegroom, ushered.

A dinner followed at St. George's Hall, Taylor. When the couple left for New York City, the bride wore a brown silk knit ensemble with matching accessories and corsage of green tone cymbidium orchids. They will reside at 6605 Torresdale Ave., Philadelphia.

Mrs. Dufton, who attended Scranton Public Schools, was employed by Scranton School District. Mr. Dufton attende



Texas

AT ALL-CIVIC LUNCHEON FRIDAY

Tunnell Cites Leadership's 'Price Tag'

There is a definite "price tag" on leadership, but both the individual and the community must be willing to pay the price to preserve the American way of life, House Speaker Byron Tunnell of Tyler told approximately 185 persons attending Friday's all-civic luncheon in the Browntowner.

"Nothing great ever sprang from contentment," Tunnell said. America would still be part of Great Britain if the colonists had been content with British rule, he commented.

Tunnell said civic organizations such as those represented at Friday's 18th annual Brownwood Joint Civic Club Luncheon strengthened America. This cooperation is a constructive force, he said.

He listed four factors that make up the "price tag" of leadership exemplified by civic club members:

ONE — Great preparation for this leadership.

TWO — Ability to work with other people—the art of human relations.

THREE — A growing mastery of the work to which you're assigned.

FOUR—Long days and hard work. "No man ever became a leader in an eight-hour day," he said.

Tunnell said the lives of those present at the all-civic luncheon represented "all that is best" in Brownwood. These leaders are "involved in Brownwood's problems and are eager to help its progress."

"You are all leaders or potential leaders — pace-setters," he said.

Groner Pitts was master of ceremonies for the luncheon. Texas Rep. Ben Barnes introduced the speaker. Invocation was by the Rev. Monroe Teeters, pastor of Early First Baptist Church. The Rev. Charlie Morris, pastor of Austin Avenue Presbyterian Church, gave the benediction.

Neal Pepper, recipient of the 1963 "key man over 35" award,

presented this year's award to Sandy M. King, insurance agent and active member of Brownwood Lions Club and Brown County Society for Crippled Children and Adults.

The Rev. Ben Feemster, former pastor of First Methodist Church and now pastor of Hurst First Methodist Church, returned to Brownwood to present the "key man 35 or under" award to Don F. Jordan Jr., insurance agent. The Rev. Mr. Feemster was last year's winner of the award.

The awards were gold plaques

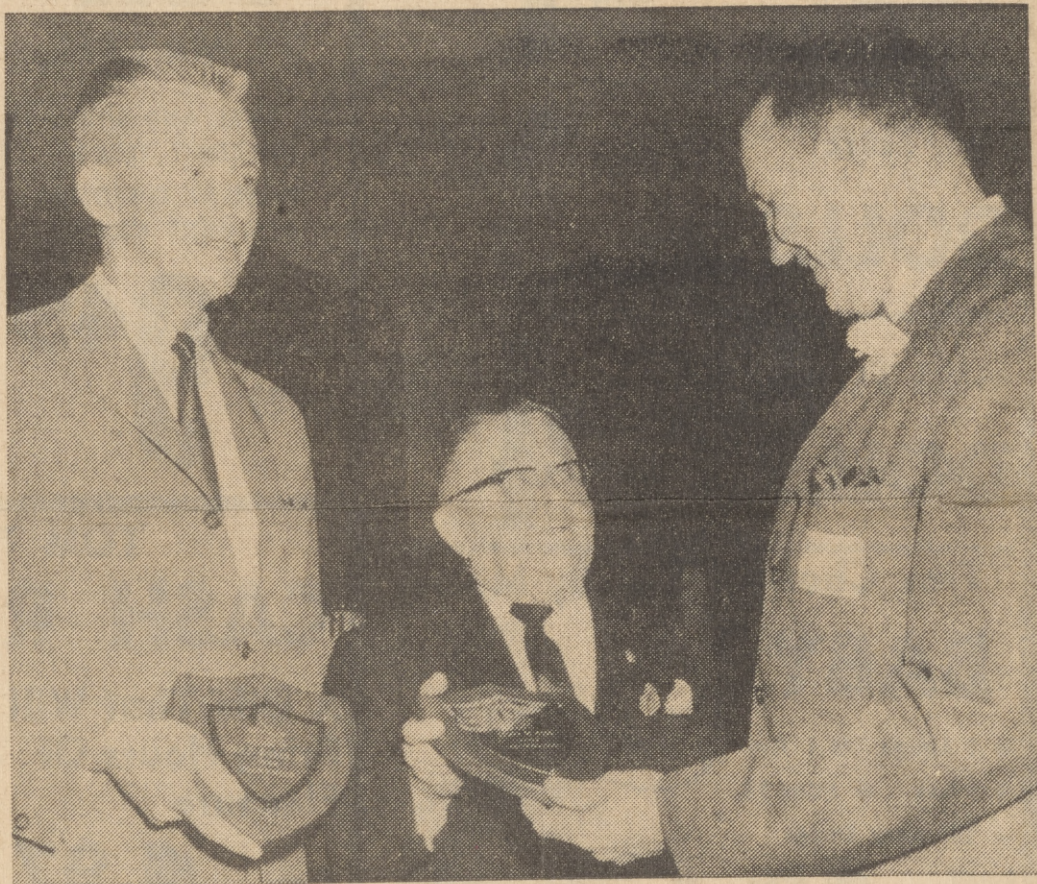
mounted on wood.

Jordan and King boosted the "key man" list to 34 since the series began in 1947.

Recognized at the head table were Joe Robert Morgan, president of Brownwood Junior Chamber of Commerce, sponsor of the banquet; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Orr; the Rev. and Mrs. Feemster; Mr. and Mrs. Pitts; Texas Sen. Louis Crump of San Saba; Mayor W. C. (Bill) Monroe; the Rev. Mr. Morris; the Rev. Mr. Teeters; Tunnell; Pepper; Barnes, and George Waters, who, with Orr, served

as project chairmen for the event.

Recognized at the lower head table were presidents of city civic organizations: Ernest Morris, Brownwood Chamber of Commerce; Hollis Galloway, Brownwood Evening Lions Club; Roscoe Smith, Brownwood Lions Club; Ron Hardin, Brownwood Kiwanis Club; Ed Devery, Brownwood Rotary Club; W. F. (Bill) Bucy, Brownwood Exchange Club; Mrs. Mary Helmecke, Brownwood Altrusa Club, and Mrs. Leonard McKinzie, Brownwood Business and Professional Women's Club.

**'KEY MEN' NAMED**

Groner Pitts, right, master of ceremonies for Friday's all-civic luncheon talks with recipients of this year's awards, Sandy M. King, center, "key man over 35," and Don F. Jordan Jr., "key man 35 or under," following the noon luncheon in the Browntowner Starlight Room. (Staff Photos)

1514 Austin Ave.—Brownwood, Texas

Marty Rogers, One Of Life's Little People, Learns To Be Tall In Stature

By Helen Bottel

There was a time, after 7 year old Martin Rogers realized he was different from his classmates at Mark Twain School, that the difference became a real problem to him and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Rogers of 5201 Ortega Street.

Martin, a handsome, dexterous youngster, seems older than his years in intelligence and muscular coordination, but women seeing him for the first time have a tendency to pick him up, ruffle his hair and coo: "What a darling little boy!"

Marty, you see, stopped growing normally at 10 months of age. "He weighed nine pounds at birth," says his mother, Helen Rogers, "but by the time he was 2 he was really running behind. We refused to be overly concerned until age 4 when a doctor diagnosed dwarfism."

Problem Dwindles

The 7 year old now weighs 31 pounds and wears size three clothes, but his lack of height no longer bothers him. When children with tactless honesty, yell "hi, midget," he grins. Best of all his parents and two older sisters have stopped feeling over protective and over sensitive to the remarks of others. They realize that no matter how Marty's malfunctioning pituitary gland affects his size, a person's stature is what he makes it.

Mr. and Mrs. Rogers attribute the change mainly to Little People Of America, an organization whose slogan, Think Big, gives a clue to its purpose. They hope a branch can be soon started in Sacramento and urge anyone interested to call Mrs. Rogers at 451-3391.

"I discovered LPA," says Mrs. Rogers, "while desperately searching the library for anything that might pertain to our situation."

In a magazine article she learned Little People Of America was founded in 1955 by Billy



Smallness no longer bothers Martin Rogers, pictured above with Tim Calahan, his normal sized friend. Both boys are 7.

blue and white collar workers, homemakers, college students, nurses, executives — but not too many are in show business any more.

"The war brought us out from under the big top and put us into industry," says East. "We hate to be associated with the word circus or carnival. We aren't freaks."

6,000 In US

One of the youngest members is Marty Rogers who, says his mother, has become a different boy since joining Little People. Marty's type of dwarfism is called hypo pituitary, which means he is formed perfectly, but in miniature. Acondroplastic dwarves such as the Easts have shortened legs and arms with nearly normal sized bodies and heads. The popular terms for these two types are midget and dwarf, but most dictionaries make no such distinction, defining both as very small people. It is estimated there are about 6,000 of them in the United States. Of these, about half belong to Little People Of America.

The club not only welcomes little people, but also the parents or guardians of "little lites," as they are called. Members are especially alert to the worries of the young and have organized a youth section where problems are discussed and often solved, and little ones like Marty Rogers learn to make the most of their smallness. A scholarship program offers opportunities.

Way To Normal Life

"We are trying to impress upon our youngsters," says East, "that their main avenue toward a normal life is through good and soundly based education. You aren't judged as tall or short when it comes to what you have in the arts or sciences. You're judged by what you can contribute. That's the kind of dream we want for young people who discover they're not going to be as tall as others. We want them to say: 'So what? We can be smarter.'"

ter and western district all it takes to convince the director for the national organization. He and his wife make big successes of their lives. Here you meet all types: Teachers, engineers,

'Little People' Plan Big New Year Greeting

There will be a big party New Year's Eve, although the guests will be on the small side, at 4707 13th ave., Brooklyn.

Participants are members of the Little People of America, who are no taller than four-feet-ten-inches, considered by medical authorities to be the level for abnormal shortness.

The party at the headquarters of the Roosevelt Democratic Club will be attended by about 30 guests of Little People's District 2, covering New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania and headed by Miss Eleanor Ostrow, of 4567 Bedford ave., Brooklyn.

Miss Ostrow, 28, is four-feet three-

inches and a graduate of Brooklyn College, where she now works as a secretary in the administrative office.

Miss Ostrow is the only undersized member of her family. Her brother is five-feet-seven.

Being average proportioned, she doesn't have the problems of some midgets, who measure as short as 2½-feet. And, that's where the organization comes in.

Formed in 1955 by Billy Barty, a television and movie performer, the national group tries to help little people with the big problems that arise in a big world.

A major nuisance concerns clothing. "We can't wear children's outfits," says Miss Ostrow. "Some midgets have normal heads

and small feet and only special stores can supply their needs. Other small people have to make their own clothing."

Social motives are also a main reason for joining the Little People. Many members marry other members.

"The majority of marriages with normal-height people does not work out," said Miss Ostrow, who learned about the club through a blind date a couple of years ago. "Particularly if the man is shorter than his wife."

Other interests of the group involve adoption, scholarship and employment services.

"Some normal-sized people give up their abnormal children for adoption," Miss Ostrow explained. "Others keep them out of school

because of shame, and the children grow up with no job skills."

The organization has helped obtain training for machinists and mechanics, who can get into small pipes and low places, and one member, under three feet tall, is a lawyer in New Jersey.

One of the most important campaigns of the Little People is an attempt to convince the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. that most phone booths should have seats.

Many midgets have found themselves stuck on the road in emergencies, with a telephone receiver out of reach.

AT&T has assured the Little People that consideration will be given to putting seats in all future phone booths.

BROOKLYN SECTION

New York Journal American

NEW YORK'S LARGEST EVENING NEWSPAPER

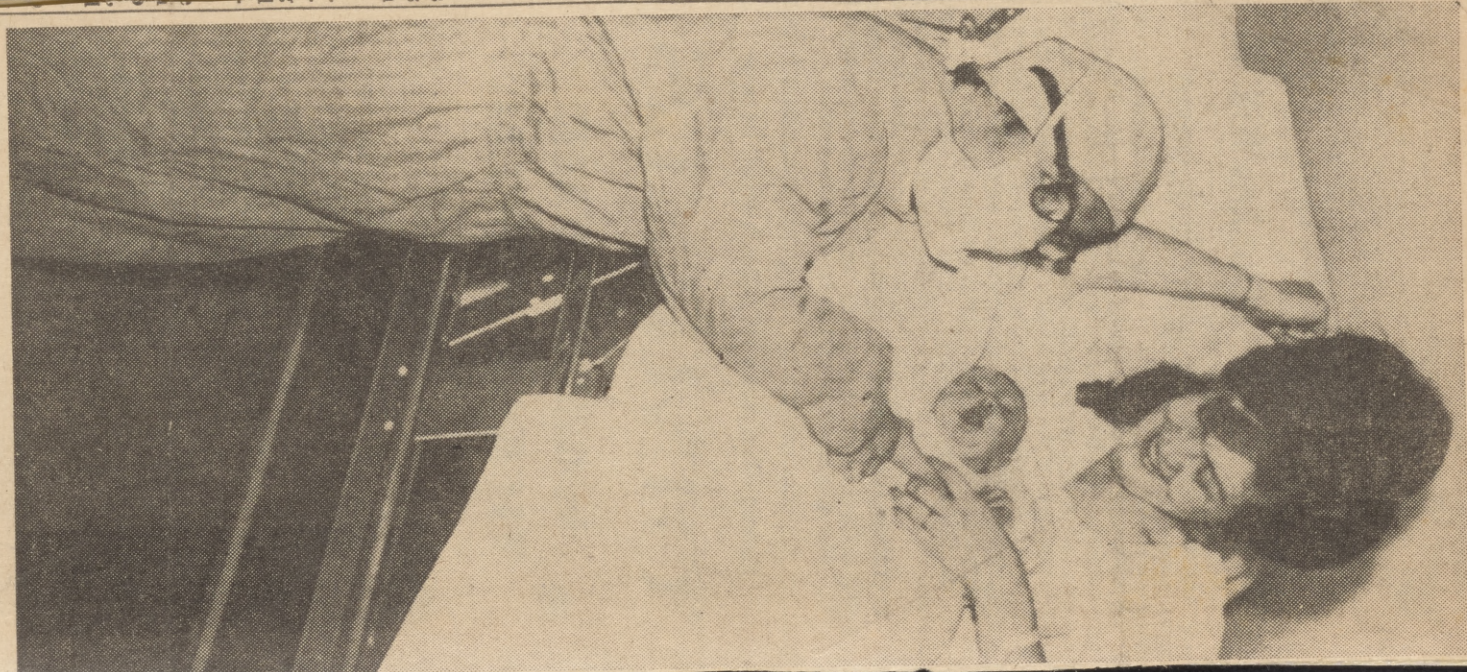
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MONDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1964

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News of Queens,
Nassau & Suffolk

A Short Story



DADDY Dave Johnson, 30, only 4 ft. 3, feels 9 feet tall. His head's in the clouds admiring daughter Tina Mary, born in Miami Beach to Mrs. Johnson, who is 6 feet tall. Dave is in show business under the name of Dave Strong.

AP Wirephoto

New York Journal American

January 1965

The Little People Have a Big Time

By NINA McCAIN
Of the World-Telegram Staff

The Little People of America got together in Brooklyn last night to usher in the New Year.

Coming from as far away as Ohio and North Carolina, the guests, all under five feet, blew noisemakers with gusto, sang "Auld Lang Syne" with fervor and probably had more fun than most of the other revelers in the borough.

"We make as much noise as anybody else, in spite of our size," Eleanor Ostrow, 4 feet 3 inches, declared.

Belt Buckle Blues

Miss Ostrow, of 4567 Bedford Ave., is the head of District Two—New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania — of the national organization for folks who spend most of their time looking up.

The New Year's Eve party, held this year at the Roosevelt Democratic Club, is a big attraction, Miss Ostrow said, because it gives the Little

People a chance to be with others of their own size.

"When you're dancing, you get tired of looking at a belt buckle all the time," Miss Ostrow said, explaining the social advantages of such an organization.

Help One Another

Little People was founded seven years ago to give diminutive citizens a chance to get to know each other and to work together on their common problems, such as getting adult clothes and shoes in tiny sizes, having cars built to fit small drivers and getting seats in telephone booths so little people can reach the phones.

"One of our members, who is only 4 feet tall and a stockholder in AT&T, went down to discuss the phone situation with them," Miss Ostrow related. "They were sympathetic and said they'd see what they could do."

Many Matches

One of the Little People's functions is matchmaking.

Miss Ostrow said marriages between little people and normal people usually do not work out too well.

When little people do marry, she noted, their children are likely to be smaller than normal too.

To provide a social outlet for the youngsters, a Little People's group in California has formed a "Little Littles" club for teen-agers.

Different Perspectives

There are about 3000 members in the national organization and 250 in Miss Ostrow's district.

Recently some of the Little People met with a few Stratosliners and High-Hites—tall people—to talk over their different perspectives.

"It's surprising how much we have in common," Miss Ostrow said. "They say we don't have any problems at all . . . that you can always find ways of making yourself taller, but you can't make yourself smaller."

THE SAN DIEGO UNION

C4 Thurs., Feb. 11, 1965
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Midget Dies; Ex-Performer

CANTON, Pa. (AP)—Casper Weiss, 92, a midget who toured the American and European show business circuits in the early years of this century, died at his home in this northeastern Pennsylvania community.

Weiss, 44 inches tall, came to the United States in 1897 from Germany originally as a watchmaker. After working in Philadelphia, he started stage appearances and toured extensively.

While living in the Coney Island midget village, Weiss met and married his wife, Joan Madeline Smits, also a midget. The widow survives.

When they retired from show business about 30 years ago, they moved to the home they had built as a summer place in Canton, which at one time was a summer colony for persons in show business.

Also surviving is a sister in West Germany.

Woman's Page

Barbara Taylor, Editor
7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Telephone 247-3311

Chapter Secretary Interested in Music



"Littlecomer" to Albuquerque is Miss Jan Harris, secretary of Los Pecos, local chapter of the Little People of America, Inc., an organization of the nation's midgets and dwarfs. Los Pecos was recently founded by Miss Virginia Cowardin, state coordinator of LPA, who was elected its first president. Other charter member officers include David Crespin, vice president, and Miss Thelma Culbertson, treasurer.

Membership in Los Pecos, LPA, is open to anyone standing four feet ten inches or under. Officers are now conducting a membership drive. Information may be obtained by calling Miss Cowardin, 242-4007 or Miss Harris, 898-3512. Auxiliary membership is open to all "big" people interested in little people.

Miss Harris, 20, is a fine arts major at University of New Mexico. She moved here from Iowa last spring. An accomplished musician and vocalist, she plays the organ and piano, French horn, drum, coronet and is a mezzo-soprano.

BORN IN Mason City, Iowa, "the home of Meredith Willson, the Music Man," she is four feet seven inches tall. Her parents and brother, as is usually the case with little people, are of average height.

After graduating from high school, Miss Harris completed two years of musical study at

Moberly Junior College in Moberly, Miss. She was a member of various marching bands, playing French horn for 10 years. An enthusiastic linguist, she speaks, reads and writes Spanish and some French. She plans to teach after graduation from college. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Harris, 2101 Yucca NW, Alameda.

The Harris family, all musicians, moved here for health reasons and because they believe there is opportunity in music circles in this area. Mr. Harris, a former public school music teacher and band director in Iowa, plays all instruments and is presently self-employed repairing musical instruments. Mrs. Harris plays the piano and sings.

Richard, "the best present I received on my third birthday," according to Miss Harris, is "at 17 already a foot taller than I."

A SENIOR at Valley High School, he is now with the VHS band at the Parade of Roses. He plays trombone.

One of the first persons Miss Harris met when the family moved here was Miss Cowardin who interested her in LPA. "It was a great day when I learned about the little people," Miss Harris declared. "I was so happy to learn that I am not the only one in the world."

Miss Harris, Miss Cowardin and Miss Culbertson attended the fifth annual national convention in Phoenix last July.

"It certainly made a difference in my life," Miss Harris said. "I was delighted to learn there are 1,500 national members and 5,500 receiving the national LPA Newsletter."

Measure Up To Grownup World

Pittsburg, Pa.
January, 1965

Little People's Life Just As Big And Don't Believe Small Talk

By EARL KOHNFELDER

Marty Mazik is afraid many of the "little people" of the Pittsburgh district may be in hiding.

As co-ordinator of the local chapter of Little People of America Inc., he'd like to do something about it.

Members of the Little People are 59 inches tall or under.

Marty feels the main point he has to put across — to normal grownups and his kind alike — is that little people are no different than big people, except they're little.

Explaining himself further, Marty, who towers over many of his counterparts at four-foot-eleven, said:

"A lot of grownups think we want to cut the world down to our own size, have scaled-down kitchens, cars and all that.

"That's not true. We're grown up, too, and can do anything big people can do. We're perfectly normal, except for our height.

"A number of grownups think we're carnival people and won't give us a job. One

thing our chapter can do is direct little people to employers who will hire them."

He said too often little people become adjusted to a small world, in many cases being shielded from the normal world by overly protective mothers.

The longer this happens, the more difficult it becomes to adjust to the normal world, he contends.

"A lot of little people are afraid to join our organization because they think they will be exploited.

"That's wrong, too. We just try to talk over common problems, help each other out, and have a good, social time of it.

"Perhaps the main thing we accomplish is to give moral support to the shy ones and build their confidence."

To be sure, little people have their problems.

No one is more aware of them than Kitty Gordon, who uses a foot-high stool to boost her 42 inches to the kitchen stove, sink and table in her home in New Kensington.

"I'm a regular little climber, said Kitty, interrupting her work in the Easter

Seals clipping service Downtown.

Clothes are one of my tougher problems. I get my dresses in the 'chubby' department of little girls' apparel.

"And I don't have to wear baby shoes any more since they've started making high heels in sizes one to four."

Marty and Kitty like to tell of the progress their little people friends are making in the working world.

They talk about four-foot-nine Geraldine Chaney of McKees Rocks, an X-ray technician at Ohio Valley Hospital.

Or Ed Emigh, four-foot-four father of four normal-sized children, who operates a specially-equipped cement truck in New Alexandria.

Or George Dold, four-foot-five electronics worker for RCA in Washington, Pa.

Beginning next Sunday, the chapter will meet at Easter Seal headquarters at 10 Wood St. Little people from throughout the Tri-State area, regardless of size, are invited to attend the 2 p. m. meeting.



KITTY GORDON

MARTY MAZIK

Kitchen 'climber' takes a coffee break.

le's 4 Feet, 6 Inches

Our moving v.p. - in Texas

Little People 'Think Big' 1965

A five-year-old boy watched Mr. and Mrs. Bill Albaugh as they were moving into a new home. Finally the boy came over and said, "Mister, can your little girl play with me?"

To the boy, Mr. Albaugh, who stands four feet and six inches in height, was a grown man. But Mrs. Albaugh seemed to the boy to be only a child, for she measures only three feet and 11 inches from head to toe.

Mrs. Albaugh, though an adult in years, did go play with the neighbor lad.

BEING MISTAKEN for a child is only a minor problem in the lives of the nation's undersized persons, says Mr. Albaugh. There are weightier problems, which an organization called Little People of America Inc. is trying to solve. Its motto is "Think Big."

Mr. Albaugh, whose home is in Camden, N.J., is vice president of Little People. He spreads their message as he travels about the U.S., Canada and Mexico on behalf of Squirt, the soft drink.

Professionally he is known as The Little Squirt. He doesn't mind that nickname for he gets paid for being Squirt's "living trademark." He's spending a week in El Paso with Lloyd D. Ferguson, general manager of Empire Bottling Inc., helping to make the beverage squirt faster.

AS HE MOVES around the country Billy, as he also is called, finds that shaving is something of a problem, because the electrical outlets in bathrooms are so high he has to find a chair to stand on before he can plug in his electric razor. Most water fountains are too high.

Now 37, Billy is a shorty because he is one of thousands of persons classified in the public mind as dwarfs or midgets. "We sort of resent that," he said. "We prefer to be called



ON EVEN TERMS—That's the way Bill Albaugh, vice president of Little People of America Inc., likes it to be between persons of normal stature and shorties, who to belong to LPM, must be under four feet 10. Here Billy mounts chair to be on equal terms with Lloyd D. Ferguson, bottling firm executive.

little people. The terms dwarf and midget indicate we are freakish, something out of a circus.

"ACTUALLY, little people are accountants, artists, clerks, lawyers, engineers, bankers, businessmen — almost every occupation you can think of. They are small because usually they are of one of two types: the pituitary type that didn't grow because of glandular malfunction, and the dwarfs—about 80 per cent of the total—who have a normal trunk and head but who have short arms and legs because their bones didn't grow. I'm a pituitary type,

which usually is not inherited. My parents and my sister and brothers are all normal. If my wife and I had children the chances are 9 out of 10 they would be normal."

Some little people who marry have both normal and undersized children, he said.

Little People of America was organized in 1955 by a movie and TV personality named Billy Barty. A constitution was adopted at a national convention in 1960 at Las Vegas.

As he travels, Mr. Albaugh seeks new members for Little People. The nearest district director is Lee Wright, Box 296, Hooks, Texas.

Wednesday, Feb. 10, 1965 Page B-1

El Paso Herald-Post

Curious Stares Fail to Faze Little People Inc. Official

By JACKIE STERN

William Albaugh pulled himself up to the edge of the chair so his legs wouldn't dangle.

It was a simple gesture, but one not likely to go unnoticed because of Albaugh's four-foot, six-inch frame.

However, curious stares don't seem to bother the dwarf, who is visiting in Albuquerque with 24 city members of Little People of America Inc. of which he is national vice president.

Being in the public eye is a natural thing for Albaugh whose present job makes him a symbol for a national bottling company. He also has traveled with the Buffalo (N. Y.) Bills professional football team as mascot and worked as a hotel page.

Jokes About Stature

Decked in cowboy garb replete with boots and hat, the little man jested about his knee-high stature.

"Before I married, when I dated big girls," he said, "I use to have to stand on the steps to kiss them goodnight."

That was in his bachelor days before he met 3-foot, 11-inch Marie.

"It was love at first sight," he said, "but I went with her three years before we were married."

Captains Team

The Albuquerque visitor is quite a sports enthusiast, serving as captain of the "undefeated" Eastern Bantams baseball team which claimed victory over the Hollywood Shorties.

"It's kind of hard for the team to get together," explained Albaugh, "because we're from eight different states."

Pausing to correct the "undefeated" in his team's title, he added that in 1961 the Bantams played the children of Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D. C.

"Our opponents were 10-year-olds, but 'twice' our size," he added. "We really took a beating."

Turns Serious

Only once — when talking about the Little People group — did Albaugh turn serious, but even then his natural humor crept out.



BIT TALLER: The four-foot, six-inch frame of Bill Albaugh, national vice president of Little People of America, Inc., enables him to turn on this three-foot high television set with little bending. He is in Albuquerque visiting with city members of the organization. (Journal photo)

Contrasting the "tall Texan image," he spoke of the Richardson, Tex., electronics engineer who heads the national group of 5500 little people.

"We try to solve mutual problems of being small and living in a big world," he said.

He cited employment, clothing fit, bringing "folks" out of their shells, and educating the "big" people as some of the organization's concerns.

The group also has an adoption chairman which seeks to place dwarfed children in homes.

"We're just as normal as the next guy," he added, "but of course just a little bit shorter."

Little Man of Big Ideas Says Don't Sell a Good Man Short

By JOANNE RECKLER
Rocky Mountain News Writer

Bill Albaugh's a man you really look up to — figuratively speaking.

He's 4 feet 6 inches TALL. Albaugh, who hails from Camden, N.J., was in Denver calling on various supermarkets for Columbine Beverage Co., local bottlers of Squirt. The official living trademark for the company since 1949, Albaugh is known to many of his friends and few enemies as—you guessed it—"Little Squirt."

Another position Albaugh holds is vice president of Little People of America, Inc., a club for little people. It boasts a membership of 5500 in the U.S. out of a possible 7500. Although maximum height is 4 feet 10 inches, the average member is 8 inches under that.

Mutual Problems

Little People of America was founded to help solve some of the mutual problems little people have in a big world.

"The whole thing is the way they are brought up at home. If they are sheltered, they don't learn to take the knocks. The solution to it is education in a regular school — we stress education because a little person without it doesn't have much of a chance," Albaugh said.



Bill Albaugh can't quite reach the clothes rack.

—Rocky Mountain News Photo.

Of the club, Albaugh says, "It wasn't planned as a lonely hearts club, but there are lots of lonely little people. And lots of happy marriages work out of it," he said, adding there were 10 in the past year.

The group has a yearly convention, where Albaugh met his 3 foot, 11 inch wife. He and Marie, who formerly toured with a midget troupe, have been married seven years.

An adoption chairman also helps place little children in families of little people.

In spite of the club's advantages, Albaugh says it's a problem getting little people to join.

"They don't want to admit they are little. They try to hide and feel that if they don't associate with little people, they aren't little."

"A little person can be anything he wants to be — except big," Albaugh emphasized.

The stereotype of little people, including midgets and dwarfs, is of circus or show business people, so people get the idea that's all they are capable of doing, Albaugh said. In truth, 90 percent are professionals.

"As elementary school teachers, for example, they get more out of the students—they speak to them, not down on them," he explained.

Others, like Albaugh, have jobs specifically for little people. They rivet insides of airplane wings in aircraft factories, or clean out missiles at missile bases.

"As for employment, little people often come out on the short end of jobs they can do, but are not given the chance due to their short stature. Employers think they may be short from the shoulders up," he said.

Both Albaugh and his wife come from normal sized families and 95 percent of their friends are normal sized. So are their house, furniture and car.

Special Problems

A little person has other problems that don't occur to the average man.

In a hotel, for instance, he can't plug in his electric razor over the mirror—or do anything that needs a reach, for that matter. He can drive downtown, but can't put a nickel in the meter. He can pay income tax, but can't reach the mail box to mail it. Sometimes he can't even reach the first step on a public bus.

It could be discouraging, but Albaugh says it's all in your attitude—and your sense of humor.

The incident Albaugh considers funniest—and quite typical—happened to them in Florida. Checking into a cottage for a vacation, Albaugh and his wife noticed a 5-year-old boy in the cottage next to theirs watching them unpack.

"The next morning he came to the door, and asked if my little girl could come out and play. And she did play ball with him in the street," Albaugh laughed.

The funniest thing to Albaugh is an often-repeated child's comment like "Look at the lady, she's shrunk" or "Look at the little daddy."

Cites Reaction

But the thing he hates is the reaction of older people.

"You can't blame kids. But it's the mother who's embarrassed so she yanks the kid's arm half off and hushes him up. Or big people who talk to one another. They think because we're little we're also deaf.

"Funny thing," he said, "when I talk of the club to my friends, they say we never thought of you as being little."

Funny thing—he's not. He thinks big.

Goal Of Little Man's Club: Overcome Big Problems

Little (4 feet 6 inches) William Albaugh has some big ideas for little Portland people.

If they're having the same problems living in a big man's world as most of the nation's short-of-stature, Albaugh

thinks they should form a Portland chapter of the national association, Little People of America, Inc.

Albaugh, who lives in Camden, N.J., is in Portland to campaign for a new club for the non-profit organization whose membership is limited to persons 4 feet 10 inches in height — and under.

"Our aim," he said, "is to make life a little more bearable for the little people. We're deadly serious about our problems — which are deadly serious to us."

Members Number 2,000

He said the national organization, formed six years ago, is devoting its energies primarily toward the elimination of job discrimination.

"We're trying to get away from the 'show business' stereotype," Albaugh, vice president of the association, said. "There is no business or professional area which should be closed to anyone because of size."

He said there are about 2,000 active members in Little People of America and that 90 per cent of them are in the professions.

All small Portlanders interested in forming a local chapter of the club are asked to call Albaugh at the Travelodge Portland, 949 E. Burnside St.



WILLIAM ALBAUGH, vice president of Little People of America, Inc., stands a manly 4 feet 6 inches beside pretty Vada Robertson who bends her 5 feet 6 inches a bit to hear about Albaugh's plans for Portlanders 4 feet 10 inches and under who may form new club.

Tiny Man Fills Job For Squirt

By NELSON PICKETT
Journal Staff Writer

William Albaugh, who stands 4 feet 6 inches, is an officer of one of the more exclusive clubs in the nation.

As national vice president of Little People of America Inc., Albaugh and the club's 5,500 members, who are 4 feet 10 inches or less, work to solve the problems little people face in a world built for big people.

Albaugh is the national "Little Squirt" of the Squirt beverage company and is in Portland promoting a low calorie drink for the first time offered in the Northwest.

He explained the main problem of his organization is educating the public to the fact that little people are employable citizens in all fields and are not confined to show business.

"There are very few jobs we can't handle.

"Ninety per cent of our members are professional people, ranging from teachers, doctors and lawyers. Being little is a handicap only if you let it be. Our people want respect, not pity."

It is an expensive problem, he reports, trying to find a pair of high-heeled shoes or a cocktail dress for his wife, who is 3 feet 11 inches.

One major problem the organization faces is keeping parents of dwarfed children from becoming too protective, he said. If a dwarfed child is treated differently from other children, he feels he is different and often develops a complex. Albaugh urges the children to attend public schools where they can learn to take the knocks of life and escape from their protective shell.



ONLY HALF again as high as regular chair is William Albaugh, official of "Little People of America," visiting here.

Winter
Feb '65

People & Business

Live Symbol Scoffs at Size

It's not the measure of your size but the measure of your personality that counts, says William Albaugh, vice president of Little People of America, Inc.

The 4-foot 6-inch Albaugh or "Little Squirt," as he is known in his business capacity as the "living trademark" of the Squirt Co., said here today the purpose of the national organization of little people is to aid the development of personality and character in dwarf and midget types and promote their acceptance in a "big man's world."

Albaugh, on a western tour to represent the company at product demonstrations, likes "to believe I am not just a showpiece." He also works in training personnel in servicing accounts, soliciting new customers in established areas, and establishing the product in new franchise areas.

He has another purpose on the tour, he noted, to encourage new membership in the little people organization.

Albaugh resides in Camden, N.J., with his wife, 3 foot 6 inches, and travels the United States, Canada and Mexico. On his first trip through the Northwest, he was finding the country "immensely enjoyable."

He was born in Mingo Junction, Ohio, the son of normalized parents and with four normal sisters and brothers. In high school he had an "extremely short basketball career" of exactly two minutes.

The opportunity for Albaugh, the team's manager, to play came when the hometown squad

got far out ahead of their arch rivals "and I was put in to rub a little salt in their wounds," he recalled. He is now the center on the little people's Eastern Division basketball team, due to his basketball experience and relative height.

The organization is restricted to persons 4-feet 10-inches to 4-feet 2-inches. With membership of 5,500, the Little People of America has a potential membership of an additional 2,000, he believes.

Goals Outlined

The little people's group promotes education and boasts a membership that is 90 per cent professional and career people such as lawyers, accountants and teachers.

Jobs requiring higher education or special ability are the easiest employment for little people to gain and succeed at, he said. It also stresses early adaption of younger little people to the problems that will confront them in society, he added, noting that many parents tend to overprotect such children.

"If you are little you have to make an adjustment early to develop a personality and character that will overcome your size."

Discrimination Seen

There is some discrimination against size in society, he said, and the resulting mental and emotional problems are a hazard.

The national organization also works with adoption of midget and dwarf types in orphanages, attempting to place them in homes of little couples, who know the problems and can best help with the solutions, Albaugh pointed out.

Dwarfism is not usually the result of hereditary factors, Albaugh noted, "Anyone can have an abnormally small child, of

which there are about 30 types."

And the national organization of little people provides them with a chance to meet and find others like themselves. Such companionship is valuable to these people and often results in compatible marriages, he added.

Many Problems Exist

The problems of little people are myriad, from adapting automobiles to suit their size, to carrying a footstool so they can reach the coin slot on parking meters. The one problem he has that "really bugs me" is plugging in his electric razor in hotels where the socket is "always out of reach above the washbasin."

Albaugh has tended bar at Niagara Falls, N.Y., traveled with the Buffalo Bills professional football team as their mascot, and worked as a page boy at California and Florida hotels. The 37-year-old Albaugh joined his present employer as "Little Squirt" 16 years ago.



William Albaugh

4-18-65 appeared *National*

THE MILWAUKEE JOURNAL



The Kitchens, a family of "little people," get set for a snack in their home at Richardson, Tex. They are: The father, Lee, 35, who stands a shade over four feet; his wife, Mary (rear), 3 feet 11 inches, and their adopted children, Alan, 8, and Sandra, 6.

Problems of the Little People

By CHARLES A. RICHARDS

RICHARDSON, Tex.—UPI—

"Some people with big freckles and red hair think only another fella with big freckles and red hair can understand them," he said, his feet not quite touching the floor as he rocked back and forth. He worked his way out of the chair and walked across the room. "That's where we come in," he added.

"We don't really look on ourselves as handicapped. We're different and we realize that. And we know we have to make some compensations to get along, but we don't have to do that at a loss of dignity, self-respect or anything else."

With that, Lee Kitchens, 35, summed up the message he has to offer to anyone who goes through life as a midget or dwarf.

Standing just a shade over four feet tall, Kitchens is a little man in a world dominated by big people. He is president of Little People of America, Inc.

About 400 "little persons" over the United States belong and meet each summer at a week long convention to visit socially and exchange solu-

tions to the nuisances that plague them.

There is some sensitivity about the labels "midget" and "dwarf," and most prefer to be called "little persons," Kitchens said. Both categories make up the organization's membership—the midget, who is perfectly proportioned but small, and the dwarf, who has a normal head and body but short legs and arms.

Kitchens is a dwarf. His parents were normal in all respects. And there was no history in the family of anyone less than normal height.

Kitchens was hired by Texas Instruments, Inc., while he was still attending Southern Methodist university. Now in his 13th year at the firm, he is in charge of more than 20 engineers.

His wife, Mary, is 3 feet 11 inches tall, a dwarf and a graduate of Texas Woman's university.

Just Annoyances

Their children, Sandra, 6 and Alan, 8, were adopted from an adoption agency aft-

er tests showed they would be dwarfs, like their foster parents. The family lives in a Dallas suburb.

Kitchens denies that little people have any great problems. "Just nuisances we have to learn to put up with," he said.

Hold Variety of Jobs

The organization urges teenagers to compensate for their inability to compete in sports by concentrating in other

areas in which they can excel.

The first chore in rehabilitating a little adult often is to knock a chip off his shoulder. "But they can have a successful adult life like anyone else," Kitchens said. "And that's where other little people like us can help them."

If just one letter of inquiry a month is received at Box 126, Owatonna, Minn., the organization feels that month is a success.

A common misconception is to think of the little person as able to get a job only in a circus or show business. "Just name an occupation and 99 times out of 100 I can give you the name of a little person doing that work," Kitchens said.

Clothes and transportation rate the most troublesome day to day problems.

Accept Employment Challenge

Pittsburgh 1965

Little People Fitting Into Goodwill Industries

By ROBERT JACKSON

Some little people have been fitted into the employment picture of Goodwill Industries of Pittsburgh.

The organization, which operates several workshops for the handicapped, took on a clerk for its McKeesport store opening later this month and office help for its dry cleaning plant.

The stimulus was supplied at the annual regional meeting of the Little People of America where William A. Lufburrow, a Goodwill executive, commented on unemployment, a chronic problem for the undersized.

"There are job opportunities in the industry," Mr. Lufburrow suggested, in an address to some 30 little people, whose head-to-toe measurements never stretch beyond 59 inches.

Membership in the organization is limited to the "grown-ups" who stand less than five-feet tall.

Little people have responded before to the employment challenge laid down by Goodwill.

"We have a switchboard operator, an assorter on a production line, and a clerk, who fall in the 'little people category,' Mr. Lufburrow noted.

The program, held at the Roosevelt Hotel over the weekend, attracted delegates from New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan, Tennessee, and

West Virginia, in addition to Pennsylvania.

The organization voted to extend an official "thank you" to the hotel for placing the bathroom towels within reach.

"Ordinarily the towels are draped over racks too high for us to get to," said George Baehm III, public relations man from Great Neck, N. Y.

Mr. Baehm, emphasizing the value of an organization to call attention to their problems, observed that the telephone company installed seats in phone booths "to help us reach the dialing system."

He also pointed out that transportation companies in some large cities have installed an extra, collapsible, step on buses to accommodate the shorter legged patrons.

A 60-year old delegate from Flint, Mich., laughed about the special attention she got from a gate attendant at an airport in Cleveland.

"He let me through and into the plane before he would accept anyone else's ticket. I'm sure he thought I would get squashed if he didn't," she said.

Martin Mazik, Little People co-ordinator, expressed concern about the lack of interest in the organization here: "There are only about 10 people active and there must be more than 100 people who would qualify."

Steps to advance a recruitment program have been

taken with the establishment of the local chapter's first headquarters office.

Pittsburgh's Little People now meet at the Easter Seal Center, Wood St., Downtown.

The Pittsburgh Press, Monday, April 5, 1965



A MOVING EXPERIENCE at the regional meeting of the Little People of America in the Roosevelt Hotel found Eleanor Ostrow, of Brooklyn, telling Emeigh, of New Alexandria, where to put the piano. Mr. Emeigh drove a specially-fitted cement truck for a living.

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"Ordinarily the towels are draped over racks too high for us to get to," said George Beebe, relations manager, Neck, N.

Mr. Beebe said the value of the organization is to call attention to the problems, observe the phone company in phone booth, reach the door.

He also said that some large transportation companies stalled an step on bus, the shorter.

A 60-year-old Flint, Mich., man, the special agent from a gate airport in C.

"He let me into the room, I would accept the ticket. I'm not I would get didn't," she said.

Martin Maas, co-ordinator, said he was concerned about the organization.

"There are a lot of people active in the organization, but we need more than that. We would qualify."

Steps to a permanent program

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Vancouver
3-65



Living in a world for people nearly twice their size are Mr. and Mrs. Bill Albaugh who are visiting in the Vancouver area as the living trademark for The Squirt Co., and as representatives of the Little People of America, an exclusive organization for people 4-10 and under. Albaugh stands 4-6 and his petite wife is 3-11. (Columbian photo)

IN 'BIG' WORLD

"And we don't live in little houses with little furniture," Albaugh joked. "A little person can not live separately like that because everyone around us is of a normal size and we can't expect a 6-foot friend to fit anything specially made," Albaugh said.

The willingness of the little people, as expressed by the L.P.A. organization, to adjust to a big world and play a normal role was explained by Albaugh, when he said, "We have to depend on ourselves."

Little People Tackle Big World Problems

By KATHY ARNESON
Columbian Staff Reporter

The tall and short of it is exactly the biggest problem facing two of the smallest visitors to the Vancouver-Portland area this week.

Finding the world truly a big place to live in are Mr. and Mrs. William Albaugh who stand 4-6 and 3-11 respectively. Albaugh, living trademark for The Squirt Co., is visiting this area on business with local representatives of the bottling company and on business for the National Association of the Little People of America, of which he is vice president.

A member of the Little Peoples' organization since its establishment in 1960, Albaugh is hoping to establish a chapter in this area before his return to New Jersey in April.

"We don't expect the world to adjust to us, but know that we must adjust to the big world," he said.

This adjustment, Albaugh and his wife feel, will be easier with education of the little people themselves and of the general public. "Because of ignorance or misconceptions concerning little people (medically termed dwarfs), many people are either afraid of us or prejudiced against us," Albaugh explained.

REAL HANDICAPS

Such problems create other problems for the little people that make employment, obtaining clothing and everything involving everyday living a king-size headache.

Medically and physically most little people are as "normal" as the 5 to 6-foot people except in stature.

This stature, according to Albaugh, is generally a result of one of 30 types of dwarfism, most prevalent of which is the acondroplastic (normal size body and head with short arms and legs, a result of the too rapid knitting of bones in these extremities).

Albaugh and his wife are of the pituitary type of dwarf, caused by the malfunctioning of the pituitary gland.

"Little people are not a breed of people," said Albaugh, whose parents, brothers and sisters were all normal sized.

Children of little people also are not necessarily "little" either, he explained.

With the proper training and education, little people can handle most all professional jobs, he added. Ninety per cent of the adult members of the Little People of America now hold professional positions, with many of these elementary teachers, according to the vice president. "They and their supervisors feel the little teacher does an excellent job with the youngsters because the youngsters and teachers can see eye to eye," Albaugh said.

Such is the attitude that Albaugh and his wife are hoping to instill in the 50 or more little people in the Washington-Oregon district, in which he is working to establish a chapter.

CONFERENCE DUE

Albaugh also will be working on the West Coast Little Peoples area conference that is scheduled in Portland in three weeks, and he will be one of the key personnel at the national convention of the group in July in Gloster City, N.J.

Highlight of the convention in New Jersey, according to the 37-year-old Albaugh, is the final playoff of the little peoples' two baseball teams, the "Eastern Bantams" and the "Hollywood Shorties."

Albaugh will be explaining the big game and other little people activities throughout the Vancouver area this month. While here he also will make special visits to the Shrine Hospital and to local schools and their special education classes.

Attitude of the little people that Albaugh will be expressing at these visits — "that it all depends upon how you look at the world that really counts" — would not seem to be applicable only to little people looking up but to us all, a spokesman for The Squirt Co. traveling with Mr. and Mrs. Albaugh, added.

Picture Page— above the president
+ astronauts!! How
about
that



SHE was once described to a visitor by one of her pupils as "the kid with the earrings." And she has been described by a friend as a short person with a voice "that's six feet tall." Both titles aptly refer to Miss Harriet Hoppert, 4 foot 2 inch fourth and fifth grade teacher at Browning school, 5575 N. 76th st. Miss Hoppert, who lives at 7719 W. Hampton av., is a native of Sheboygan and taught there for several years before moving to Milwaukee. She is an active member of the Wisconsin-Illinois district of the Little People of America, Inc., and the association's national historian. But in her classroom she is all teacher and has the respect of pupils and faculty alike and believes that her shortness actually increases her rapport with the children. She stood with her class (upper) in the doorway waiting for a dismissal bell. **Left:** Without the use of a chair she can reach only to the middle of the blackboard, about the same place where her students start writing.

—Journal Photos by John Ahlhauser



A rabbit, loaned to the class by a pupil in another room, was the subject for a discussion and an art class.



The Milwaukee Journal - June 18-1965

Miss Hoppert likes to kneel on a chair while talking to her class. The action adds about two inches to her height. Lower: Mrs. Barbara Hembrook, 495 Rip Van

Winkle dr., Brookfield, a speech therapist, towers over Miss Hoppert as she delivered a message. Miss Hoppert has been at Browning for a year and a half.





Host Ralph Welbes (right), 24, talked with Paul Dolinajecji, 42, of Arlington Heights, Ill., at the meeting of the Little People

of America Saturday at Welbes' home in Oak Creek. Welbes is 3 feet. Dolinajecji is 4 feet 5.

—Journal Photo

Plight of Little People Is Described by Some

By BARBARA SCHMOLL
Of The Journal Staff

The teacher was trying to organize her pupils in Sheboygan's crowded train station as the group was setting out on a field trip. Several mothers stood near by and watched.

"Which one's the teacher?" asked the stationmaster, nodding toward the women.

"None of them," one of the youngsters replied. "She's the kid with the earrings."

Cites Advantage

That's a story Miss Harriet Hoppert, the teacher, tells on herself to illustrate one advantage of being a "little people."

Miss Hoppert, who is 4 feet 2, is the Wisconsin-Illinois district secretary of the Little People of America, Inc.

The district had its third meeting Saturday at the home of Ralph Welbes, 7621 S. Pennsylvania av., Oak Creek. He is 3 feet tall.

Miss Hoppert, who now lives at 7719 W. Hampton av., said that being short "was the best way to be a teacher." She said it increased her rapport with her pupils because she was "one of them."

But there are disadvantages, too, some of the little people pointed out. Clothes are too big and must be tailored. Furniture is out of proportion. Light switches and kitchen cabinets cannot be reached. Car pedals are too far away. And stand-up telephones are out of the question.

"For years, telephone booths had seats," said Paul Dolinajecji, 42, and 4 feet 5, of Arlington, Ill. "Then, all of a sudden, you have to stand up."

Nickels a Problem

That was bad, agreed Joseph White, jr., 40, who is 4 feet 6, of Kenosha. "But did you ever find a phone you could just reach and the nickels kept missing the slot?"

Dolinajecji, a charter member of the national organization, said that Little People was formed primarily to educate the public that it is possible to be normal in every other respect, even if you are a shorty. He said it was difficult to convince parents that children who turn out to be midgets or dwarfs should not be hidden away or mollycoddled.

Most of all, he said, they should be encouraged to mingle with average sized persons.

"So many are so bashful," he said.

But, he added, indicating his little friends, "most of us have big friends."

Friends Say 'Her Voice Is Six Feet Tall'



FAMILY DOCTOR

Dwarf Victim of Ancient Human Disease of Bones

By DR. T. R. VAN DELLEN

The achondroplastic dwarf is easily recognized by his distinctive appearance—short arms and legs in proportion to head and trunk. The cause is unknown. Inheritance may play a role but the condition seldom occurs in a second generation. Mentality and sexual development usually are normal.

Achondroplasia involves the growth centers of all the bones but is most noticeable in the extremities because of shortening of the long bones. In addition, the natural curves of the spine are exaggerated.

THE FOREHEAD tends to bulge over the face and nose to make room for the brain as it grows. The skull cannot expand because the growth centers are not functioning.

These pint-sized men and women do not enjoy the prestige they had at one time, although during World War II they were valuable in the aircraft industry for their ability in maneuvering into the small spaces of the wing and tail.

DR. FRANCIS E. Johnston writes that years ago dwarfs were given special recognition as shown by the number of figurines that have been unearthed by archeologists. Two Egyptian deities were in this category.

Dwarfs also held positions of honor among the Roman emperors. The wealthy kept them as jesters and they also fought as gladiators.

THEY NO LONGER are regarded as having supernatural powers or special wisdom. They



Today's Health Hint Cheerfulness is contagious.

are normal individuals with defects of the skeleton. But they have the distinction of having one of the oldest known diseases of men (and also of some animal groups, including dogs). Brinton's skeleton from the Neolithic period in Great Britain is an achondroplast, going back more than 7,000 years.

The causes of dwarfism vary. They include nutritional, metabolic, and endocrine disturbances. Bone diseases such as rickets may be responsible. Dwarfs are not the same as midgets, who are small but of normal proportions. Chondrodystrophy is classified with bone disorders and is not amenable to treatment.

NEW YORK
JAN 2, 1965
DAILY NEWS

1	El Four	R. Stroud	118	10	Good stable; works good
7	Bar One Below	O. Picado	118	15	No Reason
9	Star Peel	E. Baca	118	15	For This Order;
8	Dial Dallas	E. Minchey	118	15	They Just
2	Lady Luck Pruett	D.W. Whited	118	15	Look Nice
5	Bar Wagon	R. Spencer	118	15	This Way

SIXTH RACE—5½ furlongs, claiming \$1,500-\$2,000, 4 and up, 1st half Big Q.					
1	Alscott	O. Picado	115	7-2	Forced pace, just missed last
4	Lucy Jones	J. Dominguez	x105	9-2	Likes front; gets close; down 9
10	Aviate	J. Cantarini	114	5-2	Huge front speed nipped by
2	Flying Dier	L. Kreider	111	8	Faltered badly w-much better
7	Midnight Prowler	D.W. Whited	115	10	Faded badly at longer; spd in mud
5	March Cross	B. Harmon	115	12	Drove close w-these longer
9	Golden Tag	A. Anderson	117	15	Beat easier in mud w-early foot
3	Tag Straw	R. Stroud	114	13	Off 4 mos.; early ft. fading then
8	Devil's Partner	L. Germany	116	25	Off 6 mos.; late drive slm close
6	Sprigles	D. Castle	103	30	Well back w-easier longer; nice wt

SEVENTH RACE—6 furlongs, claiming \$2,000-\$2,500, 4-year-olds, 2nd half Big Q.					
9	Orien Butch	L. Kreider	115	5-2	Been chasing much better
3	Tubux	J. Dominguez	x105	7-2	Front speed nipped by better
4	Prince Oren	D. Carmean	113	9-2	Faded badly last; usually close
5	I'm Quick	R. Spencer	114	10	Fell back to big front speed last
1	Sweet Anet	J. Brown	110	8	Closed well last out with these
10	Horse Creek	L. Sisneros	112	12	Charged close from inside post
2	Sea Tack Jr.	O. Picado	112	15	Early foot faded to better
8	Big Faller	D.W. Whited	112	18	Not real close here recently
7	Alair	F. Cazares	115	25	Far back recent with better
6	Penny Ann	B. Harmon	110	30	Front foot faded to these recently

EIGHTH RACE—5½ furlongs, claiming \$4,500-\$5,000, 4 and up, "Little Peoples Assn. of America Purse."					
7	Black Brook	L. Byers	121	1	Strong front foot beat good
6	Ballut Abyad	D. Lewis	114	8-5	Big drive chased best
3	White Apron	J. Dominguez	x105	8	Chased biggest; fading recent
1	All Lit Up	G. Koyk	117	12	Beat much easier on front
2	Better Eye	D.W. Whited	113	18	Fading to better of late; early ft.
5	Bee True	D. Castle	118	20	Front speed tough; tiring late
4	Not A Dream	E. Minchey	114	25	Off 6 mos.; pattern of works?

NINTH RACE—5½ furlongs, allowance, 4-5-year-olds, "Miss Rodeo America Purse."					
1	Jackstraw Jr.	F. Chavez	118	2	Best front speed can handle this
4	King of River	J. Dominguez	x109	3	Early foot; chased good
8	El Norco	D.W. Whited	116	5	Stretch drive gets part with big
7	Carronade	J. Brown	111	6	Off 5 months; torrid works
3	Blue Tucker	D. Lewis	109	10	Beat easier; way back first recent
6	We're Here	E. Minchey	114	12	Drive missed w-easier recent try
2	Luring Lady	I. Madrid	111	15	Beat easier longer with drive
5	Thelma Dear	B. Harmon	109	18	Tired late longer w-gd.; early foot

10TH RACE—1½ mile, claiming \$1,500, 4 and up, Quinella.					
6	Pound and Peso	O. Picado	116	9-2	Drove close shorter; be tough here
8	Brand X	J. Wallace	121	7-2	Won longer w-drive recent
10	Mister D.G.	L. Kreider	116	5-2	Stretch power tough; always close
7	Can't Park	B. Harmon	121	8	Won this distance w-drive
5	Bossy Bush	J. Dominguez	x106	10	Gets close every time on pace
4	Garden Bell	F. Chavez	113	12	Just missed this route on jockey
2	Dark Destrier	G. Koyk	114	15	Won shorter; returning to form
9	Double Stall	D.W. Whited	116	18	Won shorter recent; faded other
3	Wild Wichita	L. Byers	114	25	Drive seldom close shorter; new jk.
1	Arenta	A. Anderson	114	30	Far back all 3 tries here

Sunland Handicap
2-12-65

Though handicapped at birth, Karel Hollingsworth leads a rewarding, worthwhile life at Syracuse, Indiana, where her home is in Oakwood Park, headquarters for the Indiana North EUB Conference.

A Dream Come True

A diminutive EUB teacher is given awards

By Louise Purvis

HER KINDERGARTEN pupils at the Syracuse, Indiana, elementary school can look Karel Evangeline Hollingsworth straight in the eye at the start of the fall term, but by spring, after a winter's growth, she often has to look up to them.

The diminutive teacher stands 4 feet, 2 inches tall, but despite her handicap she is in her fourth year of teaching, with a demanding schedule of four classes totaling 103 children. Last fall she was honored with one of the highest awards in the state from the Indiana Rehabilitation Association.

Teaching is a "dream come true" for Syracuse's "Miss Karel," who dreamed of being a teacher from the time she was in the second grade, with a favorite instructor named "Miss Mary." She determined at that early

age to grow up to be a teacher and be called "Miss Karel."

Raised in Akron, Indiana, where her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. Keith Hollingsworth, are members of Athens EUB Church, Karel was a high school student when she was contacted by the State Rehabilitation Association which assisted her in going to college.

The rest of her family are all of normal size, and science has no satisfactory explanation for Karel being born with her arms and legs dwarfed. A brother, Spec. 4/c Walter H. Hollingsworth, now with the Army in Germany, is over six feet tall. Karel also has a sister, Mrs. Howard D. Burns of Tipton, Indiana.

Pretty and brown-haired, Karel is a cheerful person, accepting her short stature with grace and wit. She quips, "I don't really consider myself handi-

capped—I just can't reach the top shelf."

Her charges accept their teacher's petite size casually, as children do. When a substitute teacher comes in, however, they unconcernedly refer to her as the "big teacher."

Graduating from Akron High School in 1957, Karel attended Manchester College in North Manchester, Indiana, and was later graduated, in 1961, from our EUB Indiana Central College.

She is working now on her master's degree in education and speech and hearing therapy, attending one night class a week in a course set up in a neighboring town by Ball State Teachers College.

Karel drives her own car, and is snug in her own home, a four-room bungalow in Oakwood Park, long the site of the Northern Indiana EUB Conference, on the shores of Lake Wawasee, one of the beauty spots of the state. Here she keeps house for herself and a beloved kitten, and for recreation enjoys winter sports.

At the nearby Calvary EUB Church, of which she is a member, Karel sings soprano in the choir, teaches in the kindergarten department in the Sunday school, and is a member of the Crusaders Class and Harmony Circle.

She is gifted in other ways, too. The craft work which means so much to the children in their classroom is a source of joy to Karel, who says, "I love to do things with my hands." She plays the piano and the clarinet (she was a member of her high school band), and sang in the college choir.

Karel fell in love with Oakwood Park one summer between her college junior and senior year, when she worked in the home of Rev. and Mrs. Paul Eppeley there. The Rev. Mr. Eppeley is director of activities and business manager of Oakwood Conference. She termed herself "chief cook and bottle-washer." After graduation, for the next two summers, she dispensed candy, gum and other confections at the Oakwood Hotel.

The citation of merit from the rehabilitation association was presented



in person last October at the Maratt Hotel in Indianapolis "in recognition of outstanding and meritorious service to the handicapped in accordance with the highest ideals and purposes of the Association."

Receiving the state award came as a surprise to Karel, but it was a thrill. She realizes that the Association considers her more or less of a pioneer in her field, proving to other handicapped people that "it can be done."

The award was no surprise to the rest of the faculty at the Syracuse school. They consider her a staff asset.

At school, Karel is completely engrossed with her small students, despite the problems that teaching four different classes brings. Four classes means four Christmas parties, four Valentine parties, four field trips at the year's end, and so on. A fellow teacher asked her, "don't you ever get tired of all those affairs?" Karel replied, "Not if the children enjoy it."

Contented with her lot, Karel plans to go on teaching simply because "I like the little ones."

¹⁰ Official Mag-United Brethren Church -
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May 9, 1965

BUILDERS



LITTLE PEOPLE of America, Northwest version, met in Portland Sunday for District 11 meeting to honor national vice president Bill Albaugh. Group of dwarfs and midgets stand from 3-feet, 11-inches to 4-feet, 10-inches tall. They met in home of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Brooks, 1039 SE 25th Ave. Albaugh is man with big cigar at right.



← TOM HAYWARD, Pendleton, shows off specially modified Volkswagen which he drove to Portland for meeting of Northwest District, Little People of America. Most cars can be modified to accommodate people under 4-feet, 10-inches, with extensions to gas pedal, brake and clutch.

1965

Thomas J. Cottonaro Is New Manager of Inn

Thomas J. Cottonaro, 225 Fourth St., has been appointed manager of the Red Coach Inn. The announcement was made by Bruno A. Scrufari, new owner of the inn.

Mr. Cottonaro, a native of Buffalo, previously was food and beverage manager of the Parkway Inn.

"The atmosphere of the inn will remain the same," Mr. Cottonaro said, "although we are planning some gradual changes in the beverage service." There will be no staff changes under the new management.

James Marinello, assistant manager and Joseph Struzek will be working closely with Mr. Cottonaro.

Mr. Cottonaro attended schools in Buffalo and Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa, Calif. He also took a food and beverage course at Cornell University.

He has been in restaurant work in the Buffalo and Niagara Falls area for many years, with the exception of a period when he appeared in movies.

Mr. Cottonaro is best known for his part as mayor of the Munchkins in the movie "Wizard of Oz." He also appeared in Tarzan movies and in a number of pictures of the Maisie series with Ann Sothern.



THOMAS COTTONARO

He is active in the Niagara Falls branch of Food Service Executives Association, the tourist division of the Niagara Falls Area Chamber of Commerce, the Romulus Club of Buffalo and the L.P.A. (Little People of America).

Phone: BU 5-8431

BANQUET HALL



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Niagara Falls, N. Y.

Al Stickney, 1965-66
president - Bay Area LPA - California
presenting plaque to Bob
East, retiring president and
present District 12
chairman - LPA.
April - 1965



U.S. Program Promises Growth for Stunted Kids

By RICHARD LYONS

Science Writer

A baby is born. His parents admire him lovingly and watch their child develop and grow. But between the ages of 4 and 6, at least 10,000 American couples notice that something is wrong—their child is not growing nearly as fast as the kids down the street.

Their children are suffering from hypopituitary dwarfism, a defect that prevents the secretion of human growth hormone the pea-size pituitary gland in their brain. Small amounts of HGH are vital to normal development.

Until recently there was nothing that medicine could do to cure the illness—the children were doomed to living as curiosities.

Will Collect Hormone

But the American Medical Association's annual convention at the New York Coliseum was told yesterday that the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., has set up a program to collect HGH from pituitary glands obtained from cadavers at 1,000 hospitals in the country, including 25 in New York.

Dr. William E. Latimer of NIH said 50,000 pituitary glands a year are being collected and sent to the National Pituitary agency at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, where small amounts of HGH are extracted. HGH is so precious that a pound would cost \$4 million, if a pound could ever be gathered.

In the last two years the HGH collected has been used to treat 150 children suffering from hypopituitary dwarfism. Their rate of growth can be tripled by treatment.

Five-Foot Limit

Dr. Latimer explained that the hormone is in such short supply that treatment is arbitrarily stopped when the child grows to five feet so that other children can be treated. The HGH extracted from one pituitary is only sufficient to treat one child for

one day and injections may last for a year or more.

A 10-member panel decides which children are to receive HGH treatments based on applications from their doctors for the hormone.

One six-year-old Baltimore girl who had not grown an inch in three years shot up four inches in five months of HGH treatment, Dr. Latimer said.

Dr. Latimer said several drug companies were attempting to synthesize HGH to bypass the cumbersome collection process. But it may be 5 to 15 years before the complicated chemistry of HGH is deciphered so that much more of the hormone can be made available to thousands of other children unable to grow by a quirk of body chemistry.

THE

GOODWILL WAY



BUFFALO GOODWILL INDUSTRIES, INC.

Sheltered Workshop and Rehabilitation Center

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SUMMER ISSUE, 1965

BUFFALO, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Gasper Monte also met at Goodwill.

Mrs. Monte, the former Barbara O'Connor, who stands 4' 4" tall, started to work as a typist clerk in Goodwill's Industrial Shop in November of 1963.

Gasper came to Goodwill one month later. Due to illness, he could not return to his job at Bethlehem Steel, and he was referred to Goodwill by the State Division of Vocational Rehabilitation for work evaluation.

Gasper displayed an interest and ability in electrical work, so he was put on a training program in the Electrical Repair Shop. Before he finished, however, Gasper found employment for himself making wax candles.



The Montes have recently set up housekeeping on Fourth Street.

Barbara, who is currently on a leave of absence, is expecting a child.

Another young couple is still awaiting the sound of wedding bells.

James Boerschig and Kathleen Lodico plan to enter matrimonial bliss in September.

Kathy and Jimmy are both dwarfs. Kathy stands 3' 10½" tall, and Jim, just about two hairs taller.

Jim, who has a twin brother six feet tall, has been with Goodwill since 1957, when he finished school. After his evaluation, Jim was trained in the Radio and TV Repair Department. Recently Jim felt the need for a change. He requested, and was given, training in clock repair and is presently working in that department.

Kathy is a relative newcomer. Last year, after completing a business course at Bryant and Stratton, Kathy came to work in Goodwill's Telephone Office.

These are but a few of the many employees at Goodwill who participate in normal family living, thanks to the employment and training opportunities provided by the usable materials contributed by readers of the GOODWILL WAY.



Jim Boerschig and Kathy Lodico plan the honeymoon trip to follow their September wedding.

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